

Police prepare for swift action as IRA is banned

IRA became an illegal organization throughout the United Kingdom yesterday when the Government's anti-terrorist Bill received Royal Assent after an all-night sitting of the Commons. A concession to Labour backbenchers Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, agreed to delete a section

in the Bill that would have made possession of a document evidence of membership of a proscribed organization. Within an hour of the Bill becoming law Scotland Yard gave the Home Secretary a dossier of at least 20 suspects and close checks were ordered at air and sea ports.

Yard file names activists

ive Borrell in an hour of the Government's anti-terrorism measures becoming law, Scotland Yard presented Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, with a file containing the names of IRA activists it wants removed from the country. The Scotland Yard or the Office would disclose how men and women were in the file, but I understand that at least 20 people mentioned. Many of them been overtly supporting IRA during the past two years have been within the

ey can now be treated as its under the new Act and be sent back to Ireland or ded from entering Britain. Applications for exclusion presented to the Home Secretary yesterday were all

made by the Special Branch and were accompanied by documentary evidence indicating the involvement of those named. Detectives have compiled massive dossiers on the movements and activities of more than 100 "undesirables", many of whom may now be living in Ireland and will be excluded should they attempt to enter England, Scotland or Wales.

Scores of extra detectives have been recruited from all parts of the country to strengthen the Special Branch at air and sea ports. Passengers leaving and entering any port will be scrupulously checked. Baggage and hand luggage will also be closely examined, especially on routes between Britain and both parts of Ireland.

A computer will be used to keep all ports up to date with information supplied through Security arrangements, page 2

the newly created Irish Intelligence Bureau at Scotland Yard, which will be manned night and day by 14 detectives and collectors. Information from Dublin and Belfast will be available to the police in London, who will monitor the movements of suspects.

Senior police officers from provincial forces in areas where IRA sympathizers are known to live attended a conference at Scotland Yard yesterday to coordinate a national network of information and strategy aimed at tracking down those responsible for recent bomb attacks. Officers from Birmingham, Guildford, Manchester and Liverpool were there and will play a vital part in "feeding" the intelligence bureau in London.

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A computer will be used to keep all ports up to date with information supplied through Security arrangements, page 2

War against terrorism after a night sitting

ur Political Staff er an all-night sitting of the Prevention of Terrorism Bill to combat the activities of IRA was passed into law at 5 am yesterday. From the police in Great Britain were able to use the new draconian powers to arrest 25. In the sitting Mr Gerard O'Doherty member for Belfast tried unsuccessfully to add the clause proscribing IRA to the Ulster简明 Fighters the Ulster简明 Action Group and the Hand Commandos. Mr is the Home Secretary, pledged later that it might be necessary in future to other organizations to the list.

ing account of criticism many Labour MPs during the night. Mr Jenkins agreed to deletion of one section of Bill which provided that a document issued to a person from a terrorist organization, or purporting to come from such an organization, would be evidence of membership of such a group, when the Bill with the former came to the House of Lords. Lord Hailsham of St Albans, the former Conservative Lord Chancellor, said yesterday the deletion of the "I accept it is of course" clause "but it is the proper place to be drawn from position without explanation, of course, the matter is the issue which ought to be drawn this section."

thought it an unfortunate issue to people with no sense of handling legal

Bill was approved by the Lords and a representative of the Queen's personal staff present to report, after an interval, that she had given the Royal Assent. This had been formally reported to me by a commission of

December 12. The Lords debate a motion relating use of the death penalty for terrorism involving 25. The debate is expected to be on a motion by aervative backbench peer to be open to amendmenters who believe that the penalty should be reduced for other offences.

Legal Correspondent : The clause which was ed was of only minor im-ice. Its exclusion did not, Continued on page 2, col 4

Price sisters resume their hunger strike

By Tim Jones

The Price sisters, Dolours, aged 23, and Marian, aged 20, have started another hunger strike. They refused food on Thursday night after the Home Secretary said there could be "no question" of an early move to Northern Ireland because of changes in the security situation.

Since then bombings at Birmingham, Guildford and elsewhere have shown that the IRA or other terrorist groups are fully operational in this country and attitudes have hardened.

Two fellow bombers, Hugh Feeney and Gerard Kelly, stayed on hunger strike with the sisters throughout the 205 days. At the end of March they were joined by two other IRA members, Frank Stagg and Michael Gaughan. After 65 days on hunger strike Gaughan died.

IRA blamed: The mainly Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party in Ulster yesterday blamed the Provisional IRA for Mr Jenkins's decision on the Price sisters (the Press Association reports).

It is said that the IRA's "murderous campaign" had made it impossible for the Home Secretary to allow the sisters to return to Ulster at this stage, and it called for an immediate end to the violence.

The sisters called off their 205-day hunger strike last June and a few days later Mr Jenkins told Lord Brockway

35 hurt in Ulster bar blast

Thirty-five people were injured when a bomb exploded at a public house in Newry, County Down last night. First reports said two people were seriously hurt.

The police said no warning

was given before the blast, which badly damaged Hugh's Pub in Church Street. They said later they were not certain whether the bomb exploded in or outside the building.

Rabin warning, page 5

Sunday ban by bakery workers will bring shortage of bread on Monday

By Raymond Pernam Labour Staff

There will be shortages of sliced bread throughout England and Wales from Monday when the first effects are felt of a ban on overtime and Sunday work by bakery workers.

Some 280 bakeries, producing three quarters of the country's bread, will close tomorrow. Manufacturers said yesterday there would be almost no supplies of Sunblest, Mother's Pride, Homepride or Wonder-Loaf bread on Monday.

But Mr George Springall, for the employers, said there would be no bread crisis. "There will be a tight supply position only on Monday, because we will flood the place with bread for the rest of the week to counter the effect of the ban. There

will also be rolls on Monday morning," he said.

Small independent bakeries, which negotiate separately, are not involved.

Pay talks between the Bakers' Union, representing 33,000 workers in the large firms, and the Bakers' Federation broke down yesterday.

The union is demanding £40 basic wage for a 40-hour week and an end to Sunday working. It says that can be met without substantial extra cost by improving efficiency and cutting the large amount of overtime worked.

A ballot of members rejected overwhelmingly the employers' offer of £30 and decided on industrial action. Several bakeries in the Home Counties, the Midlands and the North-west have had unofficial strikes, and

Mr Stanley Gretton, general secretary of the union, said his difficulty was keeping unofficial strikes from spreading.

Some workers, he said, were putting in 70 to 80 hours a week and the alternating shift system meant they had only one clear day off in each fortnight.

The present basic rate for men is £23.80, plus threshold payments of £4.40 a week.

Ration demand: A call for bread rationing by the Government was made by a leading retailer yesterday after the bakery workers decided on their ban on overtime and Sunday working (a Staff Reporter writes). Mr Ian MacLaurin, managing director of Tesco Stores (Holdings), said this was necessary to protect shopkeepers from abuse by customers who found shelves empty.

The doctors said that Mr Nixon will be well enough to make a deposition at his home

in San Clemente, and that he is able to have two one-hour meetings every day, for as many days as are necessary.

He might be able to attend court in Los Angeles by February 2. The doctors emphasized that all their dates depended on Mr Nixon's recovery proceeding at the expected rate, and on there being "no further complications".

In the case of Mr Nixon, giving deposition at home, the report suggests that there should be adequate opportunity for rest between sessions.

It emerges from this that Mr Nixon will not be available for the present trial. Everyone concerned is determined to finish it by Christmas.

Phlebitis, from which Mr Nixon is recovering, is a circulatory disease which can easily prove fatal.

Rare Old Master acquired by National Gallery

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The National Gallery yesterday acquired "The Mystic Marriage of St Catherine", a rare work by the great Italian Mannerist painter, Parmigianino. This was announced some two hours after the painting had failed to sell in an auction at Christie's and been bought back on behalf of the owner, Lady Normanton, at £273,000. The sale to the National Gallery was negotiated by Christie's at "an undisclosed price".

The painting was originally acquired by Welbore Ellis, second Earl of Normanton, at Christie's in 1832 for 150 gns. The painting passed down the family by descent. Christie's catalogue yesterday described it as belonging to the sixth Earl

of Normanton, who succeeded in 1857. However, it was announced at the sale that the painting was being sold on behalf of the countess.

The painting is believed to have been for many years on the National Gallery's secret list of works in private hands in Britain which it wished to acquire. Christie's said yesterday that the gallery had shown interest before the sale; they were not apparently bidding at the auction. Agnew's, who have acted for the National Gallery at past auctions, were not represented at the opening of the sale; a director slipped in for the sale of the Parmigianino, and our again without lifting a finger.

The under-bidder was the Louvre. Another bidder around

Safe room, page 16

President Ford to visit China next year

From Our Own Correspondent

President Ford will visit China next year at the invitation of the Chinese Government. The visit was arranged during Dr Kissinger's talks in Peking, which have just ended.

American officials have indicated that the possibility that Mr Ford might go to China was raised by the Chinese early in the Secretary of State's visit and that he accepted on the President's behalf, after consulting him by telephone.

This will be the second visit to China by an American President. Mr Nixon went to Peking in February, 1972.

Podgorny attack, page 5

Remembering the man behind the Churchill legend, page 14

Rail travellers face large fares rises

British Rail has applied to the Price Commission to increase fares in January by between 12½ and 15 per cent. The application is expected to be formalized in view of the Chancellor's Budget statement that the nationalized industries in April, the first for two years, would be allowed increases to reduce their mounting losses. London Transport users also face a 35 per cent fares increase.

Frau Meinhof given eight years for part in murder attempt

Frau Ulrike Meinhof, alleged joint leader of the Baader-Meinhof anarchist group, was yesterday jailed for eight years by a West Berlin court for complicity in attempted murder in connexion with the free

Page 4

Turkish defeat

The new Turkish Government of Mr Sadi Irmak was defeated, 358 votes to 17, in its first confidence vote in Parliament yesterday. After the vote his 16-day-old Cabinet resigned.

Page 5

Baby case fails

A woman of 25 failed yesterday in a High Court action for damages for burns she received as a day-old baby in hospital. She claimed that as she had been taken from her mother and put in a cot in another room she was not in her mother's custody and so was not barred by the Limitation Acts from suing after so many years. The judge rejected the claim.

Page 16

Brisbane Test

Australia were saved from an early collapse by the Chappell brothers on the first day of the first Test match against England at Brisbane. Ian Chappell made 90 and Greg Chappell scored 58. In the last hour Australia were in trouble again and finished 219 for six.

Page 6

Double killing

A judge yesterday ordered an inquiry into why a man convicted of killing one of his children was allowed to look after the remaining three when his wife left him. The man was convicted yesterday of the manslaughter of a second child.

Page 3

Features, page 8-14
Eric Ambler inquires into the state of the thriller story; Saturday Review.

In his column today Roy Hattersley offers advice on garden hygiene; John Carter on package holidays in the Alps; Harry Collier on having chess for high stakes; George Hutchinson on prospects for a Channel Tunnel; Oliver Vanoss describes the intricacies of the Eton wall game.

Sport, pages 6 and 7
Rugby Union: Peter West reviews Barber's; New Zealanders. Football: Fixtures and prospects for today's league programme; Racing: Sandown Park, Sedgfield, Market Rasen and Chepstow programmes and selections.

Art, page 11
Peter Egan interviewed by Ronald Hayman; John Percival at Covent Garden; William Munn at the Festival Hall.

Leader, page 15
Letters: On control of costs in BBC television from the Director General of the BBC and others; on measures to combat terrorism from Sir E. P. Ponting and others.

Leading articles: China and the United States; the Jesuits; Business News, pages 17-21
Stock market: Equities remained unsettled, with rumours of impeding a double dip in the banking world discounting investors. The FT index lost 1.4 to 165.3.

Personal investment and finance: Investor's Week: ICI proves a poor investment; Insurance: the many meanings of Lloyd's; Talking Shop: counting the cost of holding a party.

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HOME NEWS

Security forces prepare big clamp-down

By Staff Reporters

Squadrons of plain-clothes detectives, many armed, worked round the clock at Heathrow yesterday putting finishing touches to the new anti-terrorist travel checks which became law at midnight.

The main outward signs of the planned clamp-down were extra men from the Special Branch and Scotland Yard's Irish squad around the departure and arrival points for all Irish flights. Outside the main control centre monitoring flights from the Republic, engineers were installing extra telephones to enable detectives to check suspect passengers.

Under the new laws police will have the power to request passengers, chosen at random, from the Republic of Ireland to fill in disembarkation cards, provide proof of their identity and explain the reasons for their visit.

At the airport's police headquarters, which will be used as the main centre for holding suspects, a spokesman said: "In the main it will be an intensification of what we have already been doing over the past five years. The most significant change is the new powers of detention."

Extra measures were taken yesterday to minimize the risk of reprisal bombing at the airport. Large white plastic rubbish bins disappeared and doors were removed from the old-fashioned telephone boxes.

During the day Special Branch reinforcements were studying airport procedure and secret lists of names and descriptions of men and women regarded as having close connexions with the IRA. Those are understood to include leading members of the Provisional Sinn Fein in England who are thought to have been out of the country since the funeral of James McDade.



Police checking a pillarbox in Whitehall for bombs. The Post Office last night gave the all-clear for collections in central London, but postmen are refusing to clear boxes in the W1, EC1 and EC4 areas.

Passengers from the Republic were closely watched by uniformed police after they got off the airport bus, but there was no sign of the rigorous searches expected to begin when the first flights arrive today.

One of us travelled in the early afternoon from Dublin, openly carrying copies of *An Phoblacht*, the weekly newspaper of the Provisional Republican movement, but he was not stopped or questioned. The latest edition carried a page headed "War News" which contained a detailed list of recent IRA missions, accompanied by a large photograph of an armed "freedom fighter".

Perhaps more surprising, he was able to carry a sealed two-foot long box of Dublin smoked salmon without search or question at either airport. When that was pointed out to a detective

he said things would be different once the new law came into effect.

At Heysham, Lancashire, the British Rail Sealink port for night passenger and car services to Belfast, the new legislation can obviously make life a little easier for the strong force of police who have been carrying out high-grade security operations ever since the Provisional IRA entered the lists in Northern Ireland.

Security checks for the departure of the night boat at midnight on Thursday and the arrival of the incoming ship at 5.30 am yesterday impressed us as more thorough than any seen at airports during many years of commuting across the Irish Sea.

Outward bound passengers were scrutinized by experienced uniformed and plain-clothes officers of both sexes, she denied that her husband was a member of the IRA.

She had not read the appeal.

Army forts set up on Ulster border roads

From Robert Fisk

Belfast

The Army yesterday began to erect concrete blockhouses at strategic positions along border roads in South Armagh, one of the most dangerous parts of Northern Ireland, in which at least 25 soldiers have been killed.

The blockhouses, about 20 feet long and containing gun slits, are to be manned full-time by troops guarding the Ulster border. They are the first of their kind to be built in frontier areas. Other posts are to be reinforced and turned into permanent positions.

Military sources emphatically deny that the development has any connexion with the new anti-IRA legislation, which applies equally to Northern Ireland. But troops are almost certain to keep a permanent check on motorists driving into the province on main roads.

Six blockhouses are being built in South Armagh. South of Newry, in co Down, yesterday, soldiers using a crane were constructing a blockhouse on a rock outcrop in the foothills of South Armagh, about thirty feet above the main Dublin to Belfast road.

Vanguard expulsion: The Ulster Defence Association's secret visit to the Libyan Government this month, which led to an unwanted meeting with Sinn Fein representatives in Tripoli, has prompted Mr William Craig's Vanguard party to expel a prominent Assembly representative.

Treason warrant application by Colin Jordan

Coventry magistrates yesterday deferred a decision on an application for a warrant under the Treason Act, 1351, by Mr Colin Jordan, leader of the British Movement which has its headquarters in Coventry.

He was told that he should first check with the West Midlands police headquarters in Birmingham to see whether they were taking action under the same Act against the individual named by Mr Jordan.

Mr Jordan said his application, which was in private, involved an official of the local international Marxists, Mr Ray Burns, for an alleged public statement supporting the IRA campaign in Britain.

The Treason Act carries the death penalty and Mr Jordan said that the actions of the IRA amounted to levying war against the Queen.

Five years for bomb hoaxer

A man was jailed for five years yesterday for a bomb hoax. Judge Donald Chapman said to him: "People who make telephone calls at the moment about fictitious bombs are a menace to the public." James Dunn, aged 26, of Wakefield Road, Ossett, Yorkshire, had been committed for sentence to Wakefield Crown Court for making a threat to destroy or damage property.

Police cleared Wakefield magistrates' court after a 999 call, but nothing was found. Mr Dunn, freed from prison a month before after a five-year sentence for arson, was arrested near the court. He told police he did it because he could not pay a fine for breaking windows.

Judge Chapman said Mr Dunn had many convictions for false fire alarms before being jailed for arson.

People unite against Whitehall as deer and wildlife face concrete threat to their shrunken acres

Battle line-up for Queen Victoria's forest

By Michael Horsnell

In 1882 "amid great rejoicing" Queen Victoria visited Epping Forest and in her presence the Lord Mayor of London declared it "open to the delectation of the public forever." So ended the bitter struggle between the commoners and citizens of east London against the lords of the manors who, with the connivance of the Crown, had for decades systematically enclosed the land.

The Epping Forest Act of 1878 made the Corporation of the City of London the trustee of the shrunken forest in the place of the Crown, and the corporation appointed conservators with a mandate "as far as possible to preserve the natural aspect of the Forest."

On Tuesday the struggle for the 6,000 acre forest, which in the reign of Charles I comprised 60,000 acres, will for many conservationists begin again, though this time the enemy is the Department of the Environment. A public inquiry will open at Epping, Essex, into the route of the M16, the London orbital motorway which is planned to run in a crescent shape from Dartford tunnel to the M1.

The inquiry is expected to last for three months and will consider the 18 mile stretch linking the A12 and A10 roads, costing £43m, which will, if the department has its way, touch the statutory forest in three places and bring four big intersections.

Conservationists fear that the concrete constructions will threaten with extinction the dwindling herd of black fallow deer that still wanders the woodlands by severing the ani-

Action group calls for anti-terror volunteers

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

A photo-copied typewritten appeal issued by a so-called Birmingham action group was circulated yesterday apparently seeking recruits with military experience to fight the IRA in the city. It stated: "We are a small, but determined group, determined to rid the city of these murderers and the means to this end are already arriving in the city."

The anonymous authors could not be traced last night. A copy of the appeal dated November 24 and postmarked Birmingham, November 28, arrived at the offices of *The Times* in London, the plain brown envelope addressed in wavering capital letters.

It said: "Any British national with military experience who is prepared to offer his or her services to rid the city of this vermin should contact the Birmingham Evening Mail standing age military or similar experience, and where they can be contacted." It did not explain why the newspaper had been singled out.

The new legislation will affect the Isle of Man shortly, a Manx government spokesman said yesterday.

Sinn Fein leader warned: Mr Brendan Magill, national organizer of the Provisional Sinn Fein in Britain, has been warned by his wife not to return from Ireland at present (the Press Association reports).

Mr Magill has been in Dublin since the Belfast funeral of James McDade, who accidentally blew himself up in Coventry two weeks ago.

"We want time to digest what has been happening these last few days and what it will mean," Mrs Magill said yesterday at their home in Richmond, Surrey.

She denied that her husband was a member of the IRA.

The spokesman for the newspaper said: "Any statement on this must come from the police." Senior officers at police headquarters said they had not read the appeal.

Health warning over winter fuel supplies

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Heath, the Opposition leader, said last night that with the possible exception of 1947 the country was entering the winter with fuel supplies in a more parlous state than at any time since the war.

Speaking at a Churchill centenary dinner at Streatham, Lancashire, Mr Heath said: "Production in the mines this summer has fallen dramatically and morale in the pits is low."

"What advice are the miners given by the Government?

What do we hear from Mr Foot, the normally loquacious Secretary of State for Employment?

What is the position of the oil companies?

What is the position of the gas companies?

What is the position of the coal miners?

What is the position of the steelworkers?

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HOME NEWS

Mr Prentice
criticized
student
leaderBy Devlin
action Correspondent

Prentice, Secretary of Education and Science, a danger of making himself less popular man in the room and dragging down education system with him, John Randall, president of the Union of Students, said last night.

made his bitter remark in reference to Mr Prentice's attacks on the left wing Labour Party in an open letter to the student union's editor at Margate.

Randall also announced news of a claim to increase its grants by two fifths next September. The claim is to be endorsed by the end of the weekend.

it students in London get £220, most students their education £845, and its living at home £2670 a

Prentice's decisions to cut figures for 1981 of £45,000 and of students £10,000 were tragically received. Mr Randall said decision to cut teacher's was based on unproven figures of a rapidly falling rate.

If Mr Prentice was concerned of the need to expand, what chance had he of getting government support, he asked. Recent events casts his effectiveness in question.

had cut the teacher supply after attacking the left in labour Party and had cut its numbers after going to the wishes of the Labour conference. The evidence suggested that Mr Prentice endeared himself to his

Mr Prentice I would say: if you want to make yourself a most unpopular man in government, that's your. But for God's sake over your responsibilities, don't drag the education down with you."

Randall also attacked who he said, had deliberately misrepresented the union's on Ireland. He said: "In the tragic events in Ulster may I make it clear that no time has the NUS had acts of indiscriminate

It did not think the measures used by Mr Jenkins, the Secretary, would help.

ocial Powers Act and the Provisions Act in

in Ireland had not ended

there, nor had they

been a political solution.

new police powers might

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and against those groups

pursued by peaceful

the legitimate political

of a united Ireland.

agic lesson of Northern

is that we will not

be civil liberties by

in their erosion", Mr

I said

500 needed
Plaid Cymru

Cymru needs to raise in the next six weeks £500,000 of financial difficulties facing the 36 Welsh seats general election this id to set up a research

ers estimate that it £1,000 a week to run the which sent three MPs to commons at the last

guide

icipation of Christmas Sunday Times Colour it brought together a of experts who tasted 700 wines. To issue the panel discussional selection of 154 costing between 65p and



Terry Scott, the comedian, starting a 48-hour carol sing-in on the steps of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, yesterday to raise money for War on Want.

Judge orders inquiry into how father was able to kill twice

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

A judge yesterday ordered a full inquiry into why social workers allowed John George Auckland to look after his three children when they knew he was a convicted child killer.

Mr Justice Lawson ordered the inquiry at Sheffield Crown Court after being told that Mr Auckland had killed his daughter Susan, aged 16 months, after social workers decided to give him custody of the children because his wife had walked out.

The judge sentenced him to five years' jail after the jury had found him not guilty of murder but guilty of the girl's manslaughter. It was his second prison sentence in six years for killing one of his children.

Mr Barry Mortimer, QC, for the prosecution, said that when Mr Auckland's wife left him last March his three children, John, aged three, Mandy, aged 2½ and Susan, were looked after by relatives. Social workers at Barnsley decided to return the children to Mr Auckland, who was living alone.

In July, Mr Mortimer said, Mr Auckland made a vicious attack on Susan and 100 marks of violence were found on his body.

After the jury had reached their verdict, Mr Mortimer said that Mr Auckland, aged 30, had already served an 18-month sentence for the manslaughter of one of his children, Marianne, aged nine weeks. He was sentenced at Leeds Assizes

on October 16, 1968, after the charge had been reduced from murder.

Mr Mortimer said that Marianne died in her cot from head injuries. Susan died after inhaling vomit, but had multiple injuries.

Mr Auckland, unemployed, of Queen's Drive, Shafaton, Barnsley, said in a statement that when his wife left him in March things got on top of him. He tried to cope with cooking and washing and looking after the children, but they cried a lot.

On July 10 Susan began crying in her cot. He lost his temper and shook and slapped her. Then he dropped her accidentally on the stairs. He denied intending to kill her but admitted that he had tried to cover up her injuries by faking an accident.

After sentencing Mr Auckland, the judge called Mr Tim Jones, a social worker, into the witness box and asked him: "At the time the decision was taken that these three children should go back into the care of the father, were you aware of his previous record?"

Mr Jones answered: "Yes, my Lord. May I add to that?" The judge replied: "No. That is all I want to know. The reason I ask that question is that I am greatly concerned as am sure you are, and the public, about what has happened in this case. I am going to take appropriate steps to see a full inquiry is made."

Mr Arthur Myerson, QC, for

the defence, said the fact that Mr Auckland was looking after the children was not entirely his own fault. He had had at least the tacit support and acknowledgement of the agencies involved.

Barnsley social services department stated later that Mrs Auckland left home on March 28 and went to London. She agreed to leave Susan, who was in a neglected state, with the department. For five weeks Mr Auckland prepared to look after all three of his children, and in the meantime Susan was placed with a foster-mother while the elder children stayed with his parents.

After a full discussion, and investigation by the department, Mr Auckland took over the care of his children on May 10. In view of his past history, the department considered applying to the magistrates for a compulsory care order, but decided that no grounds could be established.

The family was visited by the department eight times between April and July, and Mr Auckland's parents visited daily. The health service was also involved. The children's welfare gave no cause for concern.

The department last visited the home two weeks before Susan died and there was no reason for concern over the children's safety. Offers made by the department to take care of the children on a voluntary basis were declined by all.

Court looks after Christmas coal deliveries

Three coal merchants who were jailed at Liverpool Crown Court on October 30 for four months each for stealing coal from a colliery at St Helens were freed by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Lord Justice Roskill said the sentences were not wrong in principle. "But we feel we can extend a measure of leniency to these men and that it would be in the public interest at this time of year to enable them to resume Christmas coal deliveries."

The judge said the men, John Craig Whitehead, aged 41, of Billinge, Wigan, Harold Taylor, aged 35, of Huyton, and Thomas Travis, aged 33, of Haydock, had operated a mean and petty fraud on the National Coal Board by means of a weighbridge dodge.

One of the three joint trustees, Mr William Clark, MP for Croydon, South, said that while the accounts might look very healthy, they revealed the position at March 31 last year.

Since then there had been another general election with high expenditure, so the financial position now was not so good.

Ambulance strike

Ambulance drivers in south-east Essex went on strike yesterday in a pay dispute and only emergency calls were answered.

Death inquiry

Police are investigating the death of Miss Emma Hudson, aged 71, of Curter Place, Bradford, whose body was found at her home on Sunday

for the last election year, 1970-71, when it was £1,668,000.

The party was not able yesterday to break down the total figure of donations between individual and company contributors, though it is understood that rather more came from individuals than from companies.

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Dying baronet was exerting himself on sickbed, son says

Mr Jeremy Nightingale, the adopted son of Sir Geoffrey Slingsby Nightingale whose last will is being contested, yesterday in the High Court, described events that took place before the baronet drafted a new will excluding Mr Nightingale.

Mr Nightingale said he saw his father exerting himself in trying to lift himself up from his sickbed at his home. "I had no idea what to do. There was no oxygen in the house and I thought the best thing I could do would be to push him back on his pillows, and I did that."

Mr Nightingale said his father had been very strong, but it only took the pressure of one little finger to put him back on his pillows.

The action has been brought by Sir Geoffrey's executors. The baronet died at his home near Brentwood in September, 1972, after making five wills.

In the last, he cut Mr Nightingale out of his £40,000 estate after allegedly telling a relative that he felt his adopted son had twice tried to do him in". Mr Nightingale is asking the court to find for an earlier will which left the bulk of the estate to him.

Mr Nightingale, aged 29, a solicitor for the Essex county police authority, lives near Holt, Norfolk. He told Mr Justice Goulding that there had been an earlier incident when his father was in Harold Wood hospital, Essex.

"He was trying to raise himself up and get his breath. At no stage did he indicate to me

he was trying to get the oxygen cylinder", Mr Nightingale said.

I did not know what to do but I knew I had to do something. His bed was made up of a great deal of pillows, so I gently pushed him back. He then seemed much better. It was a very momentary matter."

Sir Geoffrey had never mentioned the two incidents to him.

His counsel, Mr Gavin Lightman, reminded him that the court had heard evidence that Sir Geoffrey had said he had hit him in the face after one of the incidents.

"The first I heard of that was yesterday", Mr Nightingale said. "I have no recollection of that ever happening in my relationship with my father."

During cross-examination by Mr W. D. Ainger, for the executors, who suggested that Sir Geoffrey was not given to flights of fancy, Mr Nightingale said: "You are suggesting I attempted to murder my father."

Mr Ainger said he was not but that Sir Geoffrey had clearly got the impression he was being impeded from sitting up.

Mr Nightingale replied: "I did as I thought best for his assistance."

Mr Patrick Tooley, a senior consultant psychiatrist, said he had known Sir Geoffrey since 1937. His condition near his death could have resulted in his being confused and misinterpreting events.

The hearing was adjourned.

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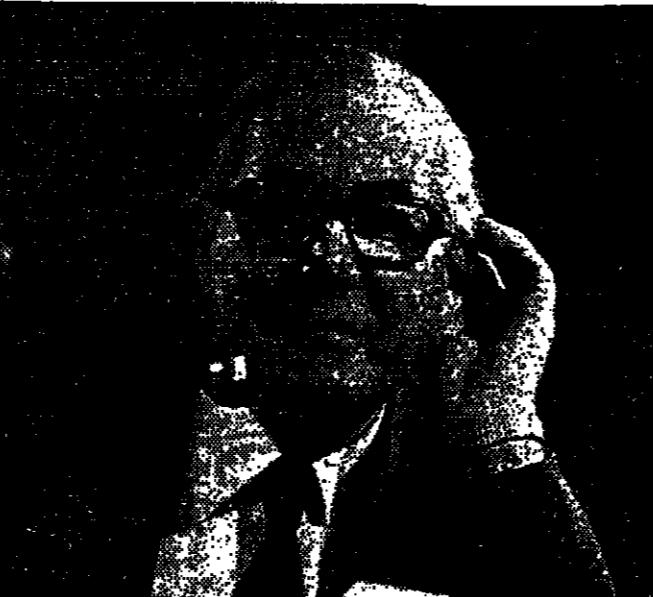
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LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE



Mrs Castle and Mr Joseph Gormley emphasizing points when they were at the rostrum yesterday. Mr Callaghan (centre) listens to the conference debate.

Platform defeated in card vote on EEC safeguards

By Our Parliamentary Staff

The promise that the British people would be allowed to have the final word on the outcome of European renegotiations within the EEC would be kept, Mr Short, Lord President of the Council and deputy leader of the party, stated when he replied to the debate on Europe. At the end of the debate the national executive committee resolved its first reverse in a card vote.

The conference accepted a resolution from the Transport and General Workers' Union calling for a referendum on October 10, 1975, and financial limits, equal opportunity, and balanced presentation of views for and against membership of the EEC. Delegates refused to respond to Mr Short's argument and demanded a resolution on Europe calling for complete safeguards on eight points set out should be remitted to the national executive.

Delegates demanded a card vote and the resolution was carried by 3,007,000 votes to 2,849,000, a majority agreed on 158,000. The resolution laid down that before a referendum was held a special conference should take place to determine the party's standpoint on all issues at the referendum.

Mr Short declared that the British people would decide the issue within the coming year and before next October. The Government believed the collective wisdom of the British people would produce the right answer.

The Government would abide by the answer and hoped the whole Labour movement would abide by the answer as well, whatever it might be.

Moving the resolution calling on the Government to give top priority to legislation permitting a referendum on Britain's membership of the EEC, Mr Harry Irwin, Transport and General Workers' Union, said that Britain wished to be a self-governing parliamentary democracy and not a minority province in a West European bureaucratic federation.

His resolution went on to say: "Conferences from time to time further limitations to be imposed on financial expenditure with equal allocation of publicity opportunities through the television and radio media and in the press, thus ensuring a balanced presentation of the views of those for or against membership of the EEC."

Mr Richard Boyle, Richmond, Yorkshire, said that France had the most efficient agricultural industry in the world and had produced more maize, an acre than any other country and more wheat an acre than Britain. It paid higher agricultural wages. Britain got benefits from the EEC.

trick and strategy would be adopted to influence the result of the referendum. Strict financial limits must be put on all advertising seeking to influence the public and the BBC and IBA must be told to maintain a balance of views for and against.

Mr Peter Price, Sheffield, Brightside, moved a resolution stating: "This conference demands that complete safeguards are gained in the negotiations with the EEC on all the following points, before acceptance of any terms of membership recommended to the British public: (1) The right of the British Parliament to restrict any EEC legislation, directives or orders when they are issued, or any new acts that are issued.

(2) The right of the British Parliament to control and regulate industry, to nationalise or other means as they require. (3) The right of the British Parliament to restrict capital inflows and outflows: (4)

To determine its own taxation policy; (5) The right of the British Parliament to subsidise foreign trade of the Commonwealth and underdeveloped countries to export to Britain on terms at least as favourable as before Britain entered the EEC; (6) The right of the British Parliament to control the movement of capital within Britain before Britain joins the EEC; (7) The right of the British Parliament to independently determine its own defence policy."

The resolution continued: "Before any acceptance of terms is made a referendum and not a general election must be held on the terms of membership. It is held a special conference shall be held which will determine the party's standpoint on all issues at the referendum."

Mr Alan Sapper, Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Trades, said negotiations were possible if one accepted in broad principle the treaties of Rome and of accession. They were only tinkering with the system which had forced Britain into becoming an offshore island province. The right of the Commonwealth and underdeveloped countries to export to Britain on terms at least as favourable as before Britain entered the EEC; (8) The right of the British Parliament to control the movement of capital within Britain before Britain joins the EEC; (9) The right of the British Parliament to independently determine its own defence policy."

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negotiation, but now with a majority Labour Government everybody in the country knew that the Government were in earnest about renegotiation.

They intended to complete the process on all the six fronts in the manifesto by the end of the spring of next year.

"I would be deceiving the conference" he went on, "if I did not point out that there is still a long way to go in achieving the fundamental changes we want in the common agricultural policy. The Government has made clear that any agreement on further harmonization of VAT on essential goods must include provision for any government to zero rate VAT at all."

Paralleled with renegotiation of the terms of membership in Brussels, the Government had been examining in London the impact of membership of the Community on Britain's agriculture and in doing so have found a good deal of support in Europe for the view that a complete reappraisal of the common agricultural policy is necessary."

Next February the Council of Ministers would undertake an in-depth review of the policy. The Government looked to this review to decide what the policy should be.

He went on: "It had split this organisation to smithereens and still continue to do so unless we get it out of the way one way or the other."

Miss Manuela Sykes, Cities of London and Westminster, South, said people were divided on the question. It was not altogether true to say that the Labour Party had split along similar lines of different shades of opinion. There should be an assurance from the Government that there would be a special Labour Party conference before a referendum but before the final decision of the Cabinet was made known of the NEC.

Mr Short, replying for the NEC said the six main renegotiation objectives were:

(1) Major changes in the common agricultural policy; (2) New and fairer methods of financing the Community budget; (3) Revision of any kind of international agreement which compelled Britain to accept increased unemployment for the sake of a fixed parity; (4)

The retention by Parliament of its powers over the British economy which were needed to pursue effective regional, industrial and fiscal policies; (5) That the economic interests of the Commonwealth and developing countries should be better protected; (6) No harmonisation of VAT which would require Britain to tax necessities.

The Government had made clear their objection to a certain loss of sovereignty involved in economic and monetary union in Europe. Mr Callaghan had warned the Community that Britain remained the Comptroller in this respect as overambitious and unrealistic. But the Community had moved away from the concept of permanently fixed parities, which the Government had rejected in their 1972 policy statement.

Nationalization and regional and taxation policies had not been increased by EEC membership, but there was a potential conflict and firm assurances would be needed on those points.

The Government had been determined to bring about a change of attitude in the EEC to the developing countries, whatever the relationship with the EEC.

This was why he urged that the Sheffield resolution should be referred to the NEC and the TGWU one accepted.

The Community had agreed for the first time to the provision of aid for developing countries which were not associated with the EEC and had been asked to implement this policy with a pledge

of £500m for the United Nations Emergency Fund for developing countries, which had suffered from the increase in oil prices.

The Government had made clear that any agreement on further harmonization of VAT on essential goods must include provision for any government to zero rate VAT at all."

Part of the audience began to shout when the sentences were announced. They displayed posters in protest against "class justice" and demanded freedom for all political prisoners.

The presiding judge ordered the court room to be cleared. He gave the names of the property owners and their lawyers would look for loopholes in the legislation and said that the best way to stop the loopholes was to get as much land as possible "under the people's belts" as quickly as possible."

The Government were urged to review their long-term proposals in the White Paper for public acquisition of building land in a resolution from Salford, East, which was agreed. A resolution from Sheffield, Hallam, also agreed, urged the Government to review the duty of examining this legislation and recommending to Parliament which orders should be debated.

This was then scrutiny and nothing more.

"Let us face the fact" he said, "that parliamentary sovereignty in these matters was surrendered by the Conservative Government to the Council of Ministers under the terms of the Association of the Royal Automobile Club of Rome, so we no longer have to ask ourselves, is this a tolerable situation or, if not, is there an acceptable alternative within EEC membership?"

He went on to loud applause: "A lot of members have spoken about the need to allow the British people the final word. Let me reaffirm on behalf of the NEC and of the Government that that promise will be kept. The British people will have the final word."

Many difficult questions about a possible referendum would have to be considered. The question was, by what means can the votes be counted, whether on a constituency, regional or national basis, what they did with the result in the end; did they insist on there being interruptions—a minimum size of poll, and so on. All these points would have to be considered."

"On behalf of the Government" he concluded, "I should like to reaffirm that the people of Britain will decide this issue. They will decide it within this coming year, or before October of next year. We believe that the collective wisdom of the British people will decide the right answer, and this Government will abide by the answer."

There was applause, which was renewed when he added: "I hope that the whole Labour movement will abide by the answer as well, whatever it might be."

The TGWU and the Sheffield resolutions were carried.

Legislation on land promised soon

The Labour Party national executive committee has been given

Government assurances about its intentions on land legislation to come before Parliament soon.

Mr Allam, MP for Salford, East, said when he replied to a

question on the subject.

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WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Archbishop Makarios tells Athens crowd that he wants peace in Cyprus but without humiliation

From Mario Modiano

Athen, Nov 29.—Archbishop Makarios, the president of Cyprus, told a press meeting in Athens today that he was going back to Cyprus to offer the Turkish-Cypriots the olive branch of conditions for partition in Cyprus.

"It is my sincere desire to find a solution of the Cyprus problem which will fully safeguard our co-habitants, the Greeks, without violating the rights of the vast majority of the Cypriot people", he declared to an enthusiastic crowd which filled Constitution square to cheer him.

The Archbishop said he was returning to Cyprus on December 6—five months after leaving the island by way of British sovereign areas, in the wake of a heavy-handed attack by the Athens junta.

The Archbishop said he was welcomed by thousands who massed to meet him today, Archbishop Makarios was a double symbol—victim of the fallen junta and a foe of the Greeks.

"We are prepared to negoti-

ate with our Turkish co-habitants a solution granting them self-government", he said, "but in no case shall we consent to the forcible transfer of populations or the creation of conditions for partition in Cyprus."

The Cypriot President, who was given the welcome of a head of state, drove in state from Athens' international airport with Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, in a bullet-proof limousine.

The crowd which had massed on Constitution Square with signs and banners, broke through the police cordon which had tried to keep them 300 yards from the hotel balcony from which the Archbishop, in flowing black robes, addressed the enthusiastic throng.

"No, no Mr Kissinger," said one banner, "we shall not surrender." Another sign, decorated with a hammer-and-sickle, read: "Throw the crown to the dustbin." Archbishop Makarios, who saw King Constantine before leaving London, is a known royalist, but promised he would keep out of this in-

ternal Greek issue.

He did, however, hail the return of democracy in Greece and paid tribute to the victims of the junta. The junta had tried to eliminate him physically. He said: "By their impudent action they opened the gates for Turkey's invasion of Cyprus." He found solace in the fact that thanks to the sacrifice of Cyprus, democracy had been restored in Greece.

Archbishop Makarios—who was joined in Athens today by Mr Gaios Clerides, the acting President, is to begin talks with the Greek Government tomorrow. He called for an inter-party policy on Cyprus.

"Bona fides in Athens and Nicosia are well clear that he was offering peace to his opponents in Cyprus, but the response seemed doubtful."

On the Greek side, Mr Karayannidis has already proposed to shape a Cyprus policy in consultation with the opposition. All party leaders went to meet the Cypriot leader at the airport today. This was a mark of the broad range of support the Archbishop can expect in Athens.

Turkey's Cabinet voted out by 358—17

From Our Correspondent

Athens, Nov 29

Mr Sadi Irmak's "above the line" Cabinet, made up mostly of civil servants, academics and independent senators, today became the first government in over 50 years.

Turkish democracy to be tested in its first confidence vote before Parliament.

Seventy-year-old Mr Irmak, a professor of medicine and an independent senator, was none the less wildly applauded as he stepped to the lectern after being routed by 358 votes to

"I know that your vote of confidence was not directed specifically against me or my colleagues", he said, and added that the result of the vote was "normal" since most voters considered his Cabinet constitutional.

Mr Irmak went to visit President Korukut after the vote to submit his resignation, a reviving the two-and-a-month-old government which had been latent since Mr Irmak became Prime Minister on November 13.

He was asked to remain in office until a new government be formed, but no immediate solution appeared likely.

fact, no one seems to want to be in Turkey at a time when the country is going through a difficult period faced with such intractable issues as inflation, shortages and Cyprus. The only exception is Mr Ercetit's social democratic Republican People's Party which, with 187 of the 450 seats, is the biggest group in Parliament.

None of the other parties—

conservatives—seems to be able to form a long or even interim coalition with Mr Irmak.

Furthermore, they repeatedly failed to reach agreement among themselves.

I have told Mr Ercetit that he would unite only to top him if they were to form a unity government.

He only solution appears to early elections. Although the parties are agreed on a date, they have failed to agree on a date.

The effects of the Government crisis are expected to be raised at a meeting tomorrow of the National Security Council.

Hasty oil talks feared by US as sure disaster

From Frank Vogl

United States Economics Correspondent

Washington, Nov 29

The United States firmly opposes the start of any formal negotiations between oil-consuming and oil-producing countries at this time, believing that such negotiations can only secure the financial collapse of major industrial countries.

Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, asserted in a speech at Yale University that "the producers will not be willing in present circumstances to negotiate more than formal ratification of their current advantage. Like the German reparations agreement, it would make financial collapse inevitable. Thus the consumers must not attempt to negotiate now."

Mr Enders, who has played a leading role in designing America's new international energy policies, clearly outlined the real fears of the United States, and he added substantial detail in the policy initiatives recently unveiled by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State.

He emphasized that the belief that a price reduction would solve all the present difficulties was quite false.

M Giscard sends out invitations for EEC summit

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Nov 29

President Giscard d'Estaing today sent out the formal letters of invitation to the eight heads of government for the EEC summit in Paris, set for December 9 and 10. A letter also has gone to M Francois-Xavier Ortoli, president of the Brussels Commission.

M Giscard told reporters last night that he had had a 45-minute telephone conversation on the summit with Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and intended to have another talk with him next week.

"We have a lot to do to prepare for the meeting", the French President said. Making public his discussions with Bonn, he said in Paris as an attempt to rebut press reports that the West German Chancellor is disappointed now with the fruits of his friendship with M Giscard.

Ir Rabin fears that Cairo leaders may opt for war

By Moshe Brilliant

Avin, Nov 29

Ir Rabin, the Prime Minister, said today that there was no big Power détenté among the Middle East the United States and Soviet Union were working out one another. He told a meeting of newspaper editors that the scheduled visit to Cairo by Mr Sadat on January 15 was Egyptian warning to the United States that there was a limit on efforts to promote separate negotiations between Cairo and Jerusalem for a final settlement.

They believed that such a stand would align the whole world against Israel and the United States.

Ir Rabin said the Egyptians had officially served notice they then opt for a military

they urgent. He also pointed out that the energy crisis has already significantly weakened the political stability of many countries and that "it is no accident that the Soviet Union and China, securely self-sufficient in energy, with a sustained growth rate, have begun to analyse and exploit a great new crisis to capitalism".

Mr Enders said that it had to be realized that oil prices will not decline significantly for quite some time to come. The first priority for the chief oil-consuming countries must therefore be to work out the maximum level of dependence on imported oil that they are willing to accept in the future.

Beyond this, these countries must take national decisions to increase greatly oil conservation; they must participate in a new financial arrangement capable of ensuring the stability of the international financial system, and they must attempt "to define a new relationship of equilibrium between producers and consumers, one in which producers' hopes for long-term income can be balanced with consumers' need for lower immediate prices".

He emphasized that the belief that a price reduction would solve all the present difficulties was quite false.

French TV strike to go on over weekend

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Nov 29

Striking journalists and technicians at ORTF, the French state television and radio network, have voted to extend their protest stoppage until Monday evening. This means that millions of French viewers will see only skeleton programmes throughout the weekend.

The union leaders declared to day that 500 more employees, besides the 260 journalists involved, would be left without work by the reorganization at ORTF. M André Rossi, the Government's chief spokesman, who is also in charge of the reorganization, today saw Lord Amman to discuss the future of broadcasting in Britain and France.

Throughout France today work was gradually resuming in post offices after staff had voted locally to go back.

UN employees stop work in Geneva protest

From Our Correspondent

Geneva, Nov 29

An all-morning strike today by the 7,000 employees of the United Nations and related agencies in Geneva was described as a complete success.

In the Palais des Nations, at least 80 per cent of the staff were said to have stayed away from their offices, most of them attending a crowded protest meeting.

A resolution was adopted protesting against the failure of the United Nations General Assembly, the Administration and their organs to protect retired and active staff against the effects of inflation and the devaluation of the dollar.

Shires' deaths will not mean new export curbs

By Maurice Corrigan

No changes to the British Government's controls over the export of horses are thought necessary by the Ministry of Agriculture after the disclosure that 12 Shire horses died after their export to Nigeria.

However, a statement issued yesterday said that the department's animal health division was always willing to discuss with intending exporters any potential animal disease hazard that might be encountered.

The prime Shire horses died of African horse sickness, a viral disease, after their arrival in Kano, northern Nigeria. News of their death, when reported in The Times, came as a sur-

prise to the Shire Horse Society, which helped in their supply, as well as to breeders.

But the Ministry of Agriculture yesterday stated that it had received notification of what had happened. The export deal was arranged by the Flower Group, whose efforts to save the animals with vaccine and other drugs failed.

A ministry spokesman added that British controls could only go so far for animal protection. When the animals had left the country there were obvious difficulties in ensuring their continued protection. A ban on exports to certain areas was thought unnecessary even if this was a tragic case.

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Mrs Happy Rockefeller leaves hospital in New York with her husband yesterday after her second operation for breast cancer.

Russian attack on China leaders

Moscow, Nov 29.—Mr Podgorny, the Soviet President, said today that on the whole his country was satisfied with relations with the United States, France and West Germany, despite their recent changes of leadership.

Speaking in Dushanbe, the capital of Tadzhikistan, he told a rally on the republic's fifth anniversary that the new American, French and West German leaders were resolved to continue the course of détente with the Soviet Union.

He criticized the Peking leaders for being unsuccessful in efforts to better the life of the Chinese people.

The country's economy experiences serious difficulties, the principles of party development, of socialist democracy and legality are grossly violated.

However, on China he declared that the leadership pursues a line towards the worsening of the situation in the world, speaks out against the socialist fraternity, and damages the national freedom movement of the people's.

On a much warmer note, President Podgorny said the Soviet Union and the United States had firmly resolved to continue "increasing the scope and intensity of joint efforts aimed at improving bilateral relations".

He stated: "The world justly assessed the results of the

Soviet-American meeting in the area of Vladivostok as a major contribution to the cause of consolidating of peace and to the international situation."—Reuter and UPI.

David Bonavia writes from Peking: Chinese officials asserted during the recent visit of Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, that the Soviet Union was unlikely to abide by its undertakings in the new draft arms control agreement with the United States.

Sources in Dr Kissinger's party reported being told by the Chinese that Americans were too naive in their view of the Soviet Union. This appears to be the main thrust of China's response to the agreement reached at Vladivostok between President Ford and Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist Party leader.

Dr Kissinger left here by air and spent the day sightseeing in the ancient canal city of Szechow. He was expected to leave China this evening after a farewell banquet in Shanghai.

Mr Stonehouse yesterday dismissed speculation that he chose to disappear because of business difficulties or for personal reasons. She also dismissed speculation about his apparent political failure when his ministerial career seemed well set.

Mr Stonehouse, aged 49, had served as Minister of Aviation and Minister of State Technology before becoming Postmaster-General. But speculation about his apparent fall from grace spread when he was not offered a ministerial post by Mr Wilson when Labour won the February general election.

Mr Stonehouse said that he had been offered the post of Shadow Minister of Aviation when Labour lost the 1970 election and because he turned that down was not offered a post earlier this year.

She told me: "His position was that he wanted to concentrate on business for several years and then come back to active leadership politics. Because he turned down that offer in 1970 he was not offered any other position. There was not any disappointment and there

Riddle of currents in MP's disappearance

By Michael Horsnell

The School of Oceanography at Miami has been asked to

investigate the possibility that

Mr John Stonehouse, the MP

who vanished last week, was

swept out to sea by the strongest

currents there for 50 years. This

was disclosed yesterday by Mrs

Barbara Stonehouse, who be

lieves that her husband has

drowned despite rumours that

he did not go swimming.

At her home in Andover,

Hampshire, she told me her

sister, Mrs Eileen Choules, who

lives in America, is keeping a

watching brief on the situation

and has made an approach to

the School of Oceanography.

"We have discovered that the

currents that day were stronger

than for 50 years, conditions

which mean we should be

searching in other areas. There

was also an electric storm at

6 pm that day and he could have

been lost. There are still possi-

bilities which we must explore.

All we can do is hope that some-

where the body will turn up."

She said he was an experi-

enced long-distance ocean swim-

mer.

Mr Stonehouse's biggest busi-

ness venture was the launching

of the British Bangladesh Trust

in July 1972, which was re-

named in March the London

Capital Group, and became a

public company with a number

SPORT

Cricket

Australia falter after the Chappell brothers put them back in game

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Brisbane, Nov 29

The first and the last hours of the first day's play in the first Test match which started here today belonged to England, those in between to the Chappells. The two brothers, Ian and Greg, made 148 between them out of an Australian score of 219 for six, of the others only Ross Edwards reached double figures.

It was a hot, competitive day, containing all the elements of an Australian collapse—the were 10 for two after 25 minutes—and a winning Australian total—they were 197 for three with an hour left. In the end England, I think, had the more to be thankful for. Their wonderful start to the series was becoming a distant memory this evening when Willis took the wicket of Ian Chappell for 100, and Walters for 11. With Underwood then removing Edwards three wickets had fallen for eight runs, so that England, when they left the field, were 100 behind and sun, looked tired but happy enough.

The pitch played better than even its maker, the Lord Mayor, had expected. It was a "crook," he said last night. In the event England's bowlers had little to encourage them. There is no pace to speak of and the bounce too was surprisingly even. How well Underwood did himself. The Australian side contains only one spin bowler, Jenner, who will have been cheered to see how

Test scorecard

AUSTRALIA: First Innings	
W. R. Redpath, b. Willis	5
M. H. Dennis, c. Willis, b. Hendrick	5
J. M. Chappell, c. Willis, b. Underwood	90
G. S. Chappell, c. Fletcher, b. Underwood	10
R. Edwards, c. Knott, b. Underwood	26
R. W. Underwood, c. Lever, b. Willis	26
T. J. Jenner, not out	11
Extras (n-b, 7-b, 4)	11
Total (6 wkt.)	219
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.	
Score at close: 100-2	
BOWLING (to date): Willis 14-2-51-1; Lever 11-0-38-0; Hendrick 12-2-41-1; Chappell 12-2-51-0; Underwood, 10-2-38-1; Jenner 10-0-31-0	
ENGLAND: First Innings	
M. H. Dennis, J. H. Edwards, R. W. Underwood, G. S. Chappell, A. D. W. Greig, R. C. D. Willis, M. J. Hendrick, P. Lever	11
Total (6 wkt.)	197
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.	
Score at close: Willis 100; Lever 11-0-38-0; Hendrick 12-2-41-1; Chappell 12-2-51-0; Underwood, 10-2-38-1; Jenner 10-0-31-0	

Hockey

Decision day at one point of the compass

By Sydney Friskin
The focal point of weekend hockey is Weymouth where the puzzle in the western group of the national championships (sponsored by Benson & Hedges) will be solved weather permitting. Five matches are to be played there, two today and three tomorrow.

The issue seems to have resolved itself into a three-way contest involving Somerset, Devon and Hereford. The top position being held by Wiltshire with a total of five points, one more than Somerset. Of today's two matches, the one between Somerset and Devon is more crucial. Both need a win badly, particularly Somerset who will be playing their last match (each of the seven teams in the group play four games).

A win over Devon tomorrow for Wiltshire will put them in a winning position, although they could be caught by Devon provided they beat Somerset today and Hereford tomorrow.

The position in the north is still a little obscure with Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cheshire still in contention. Lancashire have always had trouble meeting Northumbria and Nottinghamshire, while Cheshire will have a hard fight against Yorkshire when they play at Brooklands tomorrow. But everything points to another deciding match between Lancashire and Cheshire on Boxing Day. Last year Lancashire just managed to win.

The Midlands, Southern and Eastern group have also fallen behind because of bad weather. Organizers of the Midlands tournament are looking for a free date in January to hold the final.

The Wiltshire tournament at Stamford, the twice postponed

match between Sussex and Kent is now to be played at Worthing on December 8, Kent needing to win to meet Hampshire in the final.

Essex and Herefordshire at Hatfield Sports Club, Cheshunt, for tomorrow (toss-up 1.45) to decide who should meet Lincolnshire in the Eastern final which is expected to be played on December 29 or January 1. Herefordshire's team consists mostly of the players who assisted in the formation of the county side last season but the will have to improve on their last performance against Bedfordshire if they hope to beat Essex who have stronger resources in attack than Bedfordshire.

The time for the South trial at the Bank of England around Roehampton tomorrow (matches at 11.30 and 2.15) are:

WHITE: G. Brightwell, I. P. Pinks, J. Thompson, J. Ross, C. D. McLean, J. B. Watson, M. S. McLean, A. G. Edwards.

COLOURS: D. Boyle, M. J. Woodhead, P. R. Hickey, J. Walker, G. Tracy, R. S. Saini, R. P. Sainor, I. S. Barrett.

Cheerless night for Villa supporters

By Arthur Osman

Aston Villa 0 Oxford Utd 0

A miserable, inept game of defence in depth and lack of skill at most levels left Villa with a slender 1-0 win, split into a semblance of life when Nicholls, of Villa, towering in the Oxford penalty area, set the match to the kindling.

It was true that he did not score.

For that, on the evidence of the

game, he seemed beyond the wit of

either side, but he had risen superbly to a corner from Graydon, only to have it scythed away on the line by Milner with an rare a piece of reflex reaction.

He had, however, said much

for the Oxford trainer.

Roberts of Oxford, whose bland

thatch was in the thick of a packed

midfield and earned the constant

displeasure of the home terraces,

somewhat symbolized a side defen-

se that was to be seen to point

while being totally unconcerned

about adding any "lustre" to the

name of the game.

ASTON VILLA: J. Cumbers, J. Rob-

ertson, C. Aitken, J. Ross, C. D. McLean, J. B. Watson, M. S. McLean, A. G. Edwards.

OXFORD UNITED: J. Milkins, J.

Underwood dismissed both Greg Chappell and Ross Edwards with balls that turned.

England fielded well, none better

than the captain, and the five

catches which came their way they

held, the first by Amis, down at

long leg, being particularly mis-

erable so early in the day. Of the

faster bowlers Willis gave all he

had. When the new ball was taken

this evening, with 10 minutes left,

Willis was spied so that Lever

and Hendrick took it. Greig who

bowled only four overs of

breaks, and Lever rather lacked

their best rhythm. Underwood did

a first rate job, taking two good

wickets and giving little away.

Of bouncers there were enough

to be sure that England, when their turn comes, will not be

spared. Not until the penultimate

over, though, was anyone warned

that his name taken, as it were,

for letting Jenner have three fliers

in three balls, as much a waste of

a new ball as an ill-tempered piece

of cricket.

Australia lost their opening pair

of the fourth and fifth overs of

the day, which had an hour of

leisure presented to the Prime

Minister. Mr Gough Whitlam,

from the same political stable as

Mr Clem Jones, the Lord Mayor,

ended a whistle-stop tour of

New Zealand by making a

visit to the Oval in 1972.

The Chappells had added 100 in

two hours and a half. In

Australia's last Test match against

England, at the Oval in 1972, they

put on 201. At Wellington in March

they added 264 together against

New Zealand. In that match alone

they scored, between them, 646

runs. No more need be said.

The nearest England came to

making short work of Ross

Edwards was when he had made

four. Lever, with a better throw

from somewhere near the square

post, was off the wicket, and

Edwards had added 87 before

Chappell was out.

Within 10 runs of his 13th Test

he hooked at a bouncer

from Willis—that compulsive hook

again—and skied it high above the

Gabba. With Greig, from square

leg, and Knott both converging on

it, it was now a matter of a catch.

That it did so is a position of

genflexion was not inappropriate.

There followed a desperate little

innings by Walters. A bundle of

erves after his recent failure

against England had kept him

in the game, but he had

had Redpath on the hop with a

handful to his credit.

Sitting next to me in the press

box was Neil Harvey, chairman of

the Australian Cricket Board.

Hand trembled, he said, as he

watched the Chappells.

Greig, from square leg, had

knocked off two of the last three

overs, and Jenner had added 10 in

the last two overs of the game.

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SPORT

Racing

Weight advantage should help Summerville

y Michael Phillips
acing Correspondent

is fifth in the same race, is also meeting Summerville on vastly worse terms of 25 lb. With Andrew Turnell in the saddle Summerville is Bob Turnell's string, preferred to Golden Sol even though Golden Sol has won both his races this season.

1. King, formerly attached to Turnell's stable, has accepted the ride on Golden Sol, who beat Soothsayer by a length and a half at Ascot at the end of October. Golden Sol is now meeting Soothsayer in two other terms. Theoretically that should give him the advantage. Royal Relief has his moments, he has won the National Hunt Two-mile Steeplechase twice—he even beat Tingle Creek this month when he was only a length and a half behind, but he was beaten again. Whether he is a better horse cannot help wondering whether he can give 34 lb to Summerville. It is on a point of handicapping that Summerville is my pick. I simply pose the question: is the handicapper erred in giving him 14 lb? He is a strong character, but he is brimful of ability on his day, and with only 10 st to carry this afternoon he does seem to have an undeniably good chance.

The Benson and Hedges Handicap has beenaraked a field of 21. To defy gravity to get out on a limb and name the likely

winner without having second thoughts would be asking for trouble. I know that Clement Freud, the genial member for Isle of Ely, who is a shrewd judge of horses, has a good opinion of Parambula. Unless there is going to be a change in the weather, he will be a good bet.

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Loon rolled over him leaving him winded and badly shaken.

He gave up his ride on Floating Bound, the favourite for the second division of the Regent's Novice Hurdle at the end of the day, but neither Floating Bound nor any of the other runners nor the track itself will be a factor this season to suggest that he will make his presence felt this afternoon even with 12 st on his back.

Legal Tender and Fighting Taffy

are two others to bear in mind.

Legal Tender is in the Imperial Cup this season to run over fences not

but will be meeting Monte Royal

in the first time of asking.

Frigid Fred, Spanish Lanterna

and Zip Fastener are three interesting

recruits to jumping running in the Benson and Hedges Three-year-old

and Grand National.

It is a sobering thought that

Parambula is a 12-year-old.

Richard Pitman had another

success at Sandown Park yester-

day and did not ride again. Loon

had a chance of beating Brown

Admiral and Coal-o-Mars jumping

the last fence but one in the

Bookham Novices' Hurdle but he

was squeezed between the other

two and lost his balance

touching down. Pitman

said later that he fell all right, but

he was not able to get up.

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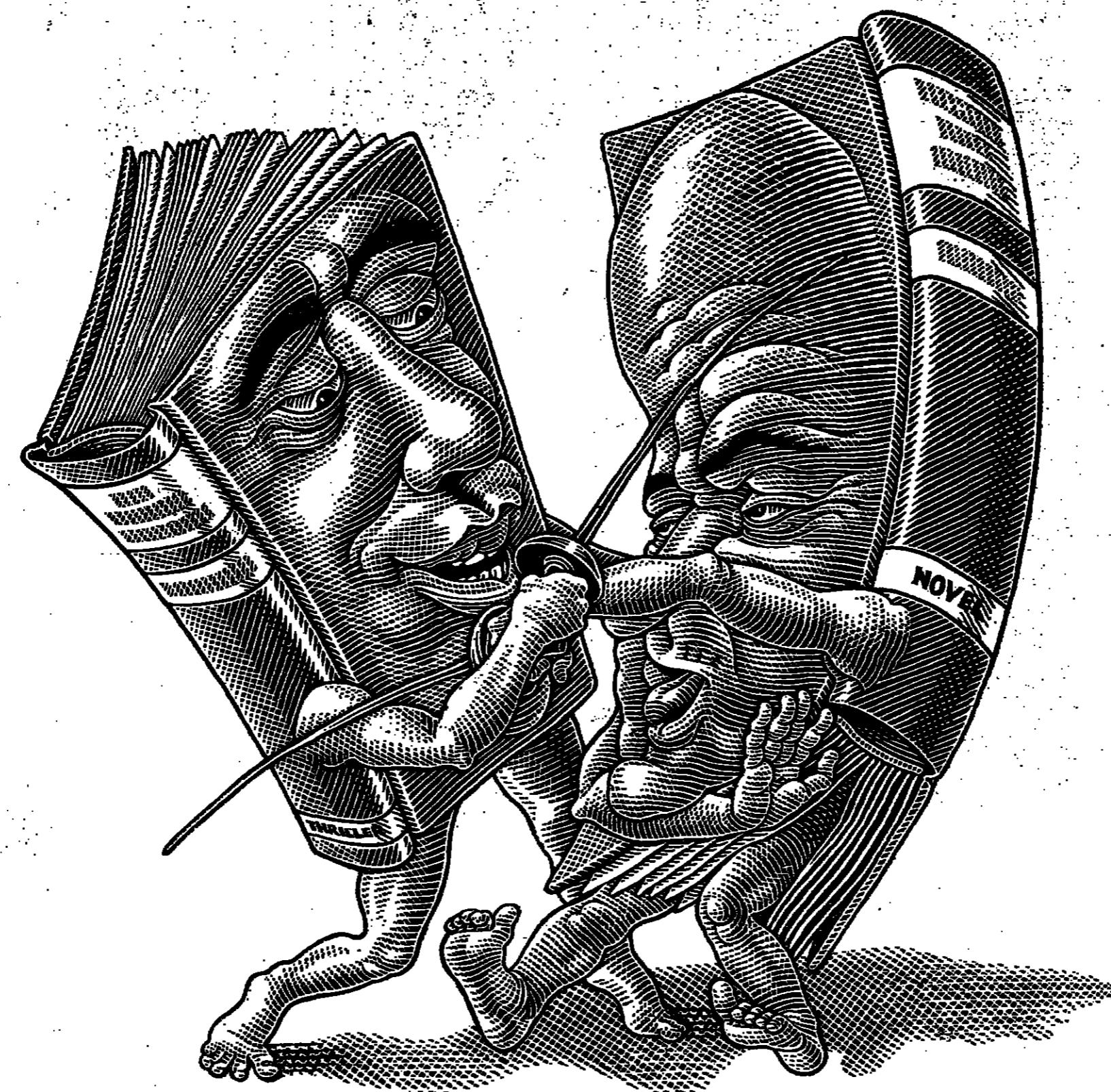


Illustration Bill Sanderson

A better sort of rubbish

An inquiry into the state of the thriller by Eric Ambler

"Oh I never read thrillers. That sort of rubbish simply doesn't interest me."

Or words to that effect.

They used to be said with the easy assurance of one voicing a prejudice he knows to be widely shared. When they are said nowadays, and they are still sometimes to be heard over the brandy, the speaker's manner is likely to be challenging, even belligerent. The old polite disdain has gone. As he mouths the word "thrillers" he converts it from a comparatively inoffensive noun into a blunderbuss term of abuse.

The weapon will be aimed at

an assortment of targets, many of them apparently unrelated.

Detective, crime and spy novels will inevitably get lumped together in the centre in spite of their essential differences; but also there in the field of fire

will be the neo-Gothic romance, vampire, horror tales, black-magic, pornography and the work of writers of disparately preposterous art, Mary Stewart and Shirley Spillane. Even science fiction may not escape.

Overkill? Perhaps, but he is

in no mood for half-measures.

What must be defended, yet again, is that picturesquesque old fortress, the serious novel. It is undermanned at present and morale within is said to be low.

Its guardians have not always needed powder and shot. There was a period when they could rely for protection almost exclusively upon that ring of psychological earthworks thrown up by the followers of Henry James and George Moore; but as the engineers died off there was erosion and slipping. Gaps presently appeared. Through them strolled various ill-natured persons—disaffected critics, *Punch* cartoonists and students from correspondence-schools of journalism—who gathered to jeer at the sentinels above, to emit catcalls and to deface the battlements with graffiti announcing that the entire structure was in a state of collapse.

The garrison replied with stink-bombs—Logan Pearson Smith's assertion that persons who wrote for money did not write for him was among the smeller fatuities lobbed over the parapet—and waited for the besiegers to make complete fools of themselves.

This they soon did. Happily,

the "brow" words, high and low,

are now unfashionable; but be-

tween the wars they were much bandied about, often by persons

who should have known better,

but mostly by those who did not.

The garrison exploited the situa-

tion by counterattacking on the

tuppenny-library front. The

thriller was hard hit. Informed

from the battlements that it was the literary counterpart of the comic strip, an addiction of the immature or those of limited intelligence, many of the groundlings lost their heads and retaliated by declaring defiantly, though not always truthfully, that they considered themselves browns and that they preferred a rattling good yarn to all that highbrow twaddle.

But what? Has the British public's literary taste been debased along with, and at something like the same rate as, its currency? It is possible. Or is the present state of affairs transitory? Are there worthy storytellers already at work—the heirs of Wells, Bennett, Galsworthy and Maugham? Superb talents who will shortly be moving in to retrieve the situation? Also possible, but unlikely I think.

There may, of course, be a psychoanalytical explanation of the phenomenon.

Dr Charles Rycroft sees the reading of detective novels as a form of manic defence against oedipal guilt. If he were prepared to include the thriller in his diagnosis—and, since he regards Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone* as a representative example of the detective novel, there seems to be no reason why he should not—it could be that the growing respectability of the thriller as a literary form is really no more than evidence of an increasing incidence of neurosis in the reading public.

After a minute or two I stopped writing. "But who are these people?"

"Booksellers, of course. Hal is in Sydney, Art is in Cape Town."

"Well, shouldn't I put in their full names? As I've never met them, it would be polite."

He was patient. "As you please. It doesn't really matter what you put. Just dirty the noise."

"Dirty them?"

"Write in them. All these overseas booksellers get one copy free for themselves. If it isn't dirtied they'll just put it into stock and sell it. We don't want that, do we? Now, let's get on."

That was the first lesson.

Others came later. One of his dicta was: "If you write two books a year, and can maintain your own miserable standards, it is just possible that you may eventually earn a living from this stuff." He preferred the detective story to the thriller—some of his theologians, dons mostly, were readers of detective stories—but the preference was slight. We all belonged, he used to tell us, to the Lower Orders, sometimes adding with jovial mock-ferocity the word "scum".

That was in 1936.

Circumstances have changed since then, of course. With spy stories and thrillers sometimes appearing on best-seller lists, few publishers would now

describe the authors of such

works, however jovially, as scum: not, at least, in the authors' hearing. Though I am far from suggesting that inclu-

sion in a best-seller list is evidence of literary or any other sort of merit, we must suppose that when novels bearing that once-fatal label "thriller" are to be seen on the coffee-tables of book-club subscribers something has changed.

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There may, of course, be a psychoanalytical explanation of the phenomenon.

Dr Charles Rycroft sees the reading of detective novels as a form of manic defence against oedipal guilt. If he were prepared to include the thriller in his diagnosis—and, since he regards Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone* as a representative example of the detective novel, there seems to be no reason why he should not—it could be that the growing respectability of the thriller as a literary form is really no more than evidence of an increasing incidence of neurosis in the reading public.

After a minute or two I stopped writing. "But who are these people?"

"Booksellers, of course. Hal is in Sydney, Art is in Cape Town."

"Well, shouldn't I put in their full names? As I've never met them, it would be polite."

He was patient. "As you please. It doesn't really matter what you put. Just dirty the noise."

"Dirty them?"

"Write in them. All these overseas booksellers get one copy free for themselves. If it isn't dirtied they'll just put it into stock and sell it. We don't want that, do we? Now, let's get on."

That was the first lesson.

Others came later. One of his dicta was: "If you write two books a year, and can maintain your own miserable standards, it is just possible that you may eventually earn a living from this stuff." He preferred the detective story to the thriller—some of his theologians, dons mostly, were readers of detective stories—but the preference was slight. We all belonged, he used to tell us, to the Lower Orders, sometimes adding with jovial mock-ferocity the word "scum".

That was in 1936.

Circumstances have changed since then, of course. With spy stories and thrillers sometimes appearing on best-seller lists,

few publishers would now

describe the authors of such

works, however jovially, as scum: not, at least, in the authors' hearing. Though I am far from suggesting that inclu-

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Films

Showbiz glamour

Its motto at MGM was "Do It Right. Give It Up". Do it right, and all the studios in great days of Hollywood much the same idea. What the imponderables of the business, you could not do better than the best that Money Can Buy. The principle was clear: the greater the costuming of the 100 costumes in the Metropolitan Museum's annual and Glorious Hollywood Design exhibition, which opened on Thursday, showwood designers rivalling greatest European couturiers in chic and style, and out-of-Babylon itself is opulent.

was not always so. In the days actors and actresses expected to bring their clothes; and a smart coat like dress was more likely to be a job than acting skills. W. Griffith's wife recalled her husband, sporting a bit of millinery, to dress the actress, "I have no part you, Miss Hart, but I can give you hat. I'll give you five if you will let Miss Hart wear your hat for this role". Indeed, you could earn more for your hat for your talent: "Clothes five dollars always, but hats and merry-making up to went for three."

As the movies moved to wood and the foundations of great empires were laid, as not perhaps surprising so much riches should be earned into clothing the stars, as more than the new-rich for display. The immigrants who created the industry visionaries who knew how dreams for the masses were without significance, many of them had begun to the top in the clothing trade. Sam Goldwynn, in gloves, Marcus in furs; Carl Laemmle, run a clothing store in Ashland, Wisconsin, William a shrinking and examining business. The great Zukor (still alive and in his 102nd year) made first fortune in furs; and as he was in charge at moment there was a director that should be used on studio costumes. Travis, dressing Dietrich or Lombard or Mae West, toyed his ingenuity in devils, collars, cuffs, wraps, muffs, lavishing on them tucks of yards of sable and white fox.

The first of the great men were recruited in the Howard Greer—who died a few weeks ago—worked in Paris with Poiret Molyneux when he was by Zukor's Famous Lasky company in 1923, to dress Mary Pickford, in gloves, Marcus in furs; Carl Laemmle, run a clothing store in Ashland, Wisconsin, William a shrinking and examining business. The great Zukor (still alive and in his 102nd year) made first fortune in furs; and as he was in charge at moment there was a director that should be used on studio costumes. Travis, dressing Dietrich or Lombard or Mae West, toyed his ingenuity in devils, collars, cuffs, wraps, muffs, lavishing on them tucks of yards of sable and white fox.

The costumes were designed to be lit, which explains the quest after elaborate and ingenious textures and contours. Banton's famous sheath dress for Dietrich in *Angel* proves to be an astonishing, shimmering



Above: Two-piece evening dress and matching scarf designed by Travis Banton. Worn by Marlene Dietrich in 'Angel'.

surface of jewelled paisley, thickly encrusted with rubies, diamonds, emeralds and pearls; while the draperies which float around her in the wind of *The Garden of Allah* are a startlingly insubstantial diaphana.

The costumes had a positive creative function. David O. Selznick's published memoranda are full of directives in this respect. The costumes of *Gone with the Wind*, he declared, had to dramatize "much more than we have done to date—the changing fortunes of the people with whom we are dealing". The Metropolitan exhibition includes Vivien Leigh's costumes for the film, among them the green ball-gown which Scarlett ran up out of the velvet drawing-room curtains when Tara's fortunes had reached their lowest ebb.

The costumes had to reflect not only the drama, but the personalities also. The exhibition (arranged by Diana Vreeland, long-time editor of *Vogue*) shows how well they succeeded. Even though awkwardly on rangy silver costume mannequins (surely the Metropolitan could have done a little better?) they still proclaim their wearers. Pickford's little poor-girl outfit for *Little Annie Rooney* or *Tess of the Storm Country*, Mae West's lush sequinned creations, Harlow's Art Deco draperies, Marilyn's frills and polka dots are unmistakable.

The galleries make a ghostly world indeed. Here—dazzling, empty shells vacated by their former occupants—are some of the most famous costumes of the movie dream-world: the dresses of Mae Murray in Stroheim's *The Merry Widow*, (the museum's own labelling is

inaccurate as well as culpably incurious). The elegant classic dress for *Way Down East* was created by the New York couturier Henri Bendel; but the *Romola* costume was done in Florence, by the costumer of the Milan opera, "to get it absolutely right".

By and large they did get them right. Even though Hollywood clothes were dictating the fashions of the day, the surprising aspect of the Metropolitan show is how timeless the best of them are: a supreme stylishness that remains undated, whether the dress was made in 1920 or 1950. At their best, a Greer, an Adrian, a Plunkett or a Banton made an art of sculpting out of fabric and fair women.

David Robinson

of Garbo in *Camille*, *Karenina* and *Mata Hari*, of Dietrich in *Blonde Venus* and *Orient Express*, of Jane Russell in *The French Line*. There is even Rita Hayworth's strapless *Gilda* dress which, she used to say, stayed in place for two very good reasons. Now we can see she was boasting: the costume is a *tour de force* of engineering in bone and padding, by the designer Jean Louis.

The earliest dress in the collection is Irene Castle's for *Patria*, in 1917; then there are Lillian Gish's costumes for *Way Down East* (1920) and *Romola* (1924). The thrill of the opening party is to turn and find that the exquisite Gish had chosen the self-same moment for a critical inspection of her own costumes. Indeed, yes, she did recall who made them (the museum's own labelling is

inaccurate as well as culpably incurious).

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Bridge

The weak overbid

closely-contested matches been won by the simple fact of asking to be bid. The bidding has been made by South and West, a point count is under 10, no doubt whatsoever that a lost a game before it is bid. He thinks that he can do it by disconnecting his hands, and he is prepared to pay a heavy price, so convinced that they will grab a by without venturing to bid a slam. When world-champs are engaged in consequence of a preemptive

overbid, can be foreseen. Game all; dealer North.

North East South Clubs West Spades
No No No Double No
No No No No
No No No No
No No No No
The contract does not look to

be a bargain and West actually went down 1100 when he appears to be strong enough to defeat a slam.

At the other table West bid Two Spades over the strong opening. North doubled to show that he had a minimum of six points, and after a series of cue bids South ended in Six Hearts.

On the lead of the ♠K the contract seems even more precarious than if West had led a spade. With no clue to the trump distribution declarer decided to play East for Three Hearts and Three Diamonds so as to dispose of his losing club and losing spade on the long diamonds. He cashed the ♠AK and when the ♠Q fell there were 13 tricks.

"The anticipatory sacrifice" is not popular with the rubber player who confines it to a pre-emption, preferably before his opponents have bid. In my view a nuisance bid is effective only at a low level when it persuades the opponents who is to play a small part game for his side is improbable. All will depend on how the points are divided, and a deal from a World Pairs championship shows the kind of nuisance bid which is occasionally successful.

No score; dealer East.

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Good Food Guide

Eating the English way

The Hudson Institute's icy long-range weather forecast for the British economy is more readily explicable if one assumes—perhaps cynically—that an international team of Paris-based investigators on a visit to Britain would quickly notice that it was raining, and decide to meet their contacts in the handful of London restaurants that are liable to be recommended to people with Paris labels on their suitcases.

Now, whether or not it is true that Britain is "beyond all other countries class-ridden, with a grossly unequal distribution of wealth, and given to ostentatious display", casual observation of the West End restaurant scene undeniably gives scope for this impression to gain a foothold. Moreover, close questioning of the staff as they brought the *timbale de sole Régence* (£2.25) or *carrot d'agneau aux deux moutardes* (£3.95) for two would reveal that native-born Englishmen prefer almost any employment to waiting at table on peers, company directors, and advertising executives in warm and nearly clean restaurants; and that this leaves eager Portuguese, Turkish and Filipino *commis* with £50 a week each to repatriate to their families, at considerable cost to the sterling balance.

The team's next engagement was at another very British place, Simpson's in the Strand, chosen because it has been highly recommended in a restaurant guide much read by Frenchmen. The waiters, apart from a few lantern-jawed originals, seemed to be mostly immigrants. The scene, indeed, deserved a new version of the H. M. Bateman cartoon, reprinted on the back of the menu, about "the gentleman who asked the carver whether the meat was English or foreign". Not for the first time, we began to doubt the infallibility of French food critics here. The *roast* was indeed extolled by Paris standards, and the saddle of mutton too. We were correctly advised to eat at Le Gavroche, using their pocket calculators to work out this restaurant's takings at about £1,000 a night. "At this rate", the *Guide's* party adds, "when M. Giscard d'Estaing puts in his take-over bid for Great Britain Limited, we will have no hesitation in nominating MM. Albert and Michel Roux to look after the affairs of the Bank of England. However, we would resist this step, for they are far more usefully employed in the kitchen."

The Hudson team would surely have chosen to eat their farewell dinner at Le Gavroche, using their pocket calculators to work out this restaurant's takings at about £1,000 a night. "At this rate", the *Guide's* party adds, "when M. Giscard d'Estaing puts in his take-over bid for Great Britain Limited, we will have no hesitation in nominating MM. Albert and Michel Roux to look after the affairs of the Bank of England. However, we would resist this step, for they are far more usefully employed in the kitchen."

"We base this conclusion not so much on the house specialities such as the roulades of smoked salmon or the Caledonian *Gavroche*, which limited resources forbade even us to embark upon, as on the routine dishes of a well-conducted French kitchen: the mussel soup (10p), the *pot au feu* sauce Albert (£2.75), and the *œufs à la neige* (90p).

Another lunch was taken at Carrer's. We deduce from this experience, that American influence on British life is waning, though the proprietor of this once very chic London restaurant may have been infected by "the English disease", for we overheard him telling some American customers—in mid-October—that he had been "too lazy" to replace his summer menu with the new autumn one.

The last dish, delicate as a cumulus cloud, with a lining of caramel to counteract its essential naivete, roused the Frenchwoman in our party to poetical flights which economists would consider reprehensible. The wine list, by the way, reads like a Stock Exchange list before rather than after the late fall in share prices: we invested cautiously, and have no complaints, but it would be easy to be stung."

The chefs here—one of them sounds German, or possibly Swiss—raised themselves sufficiently far above the prevailing lethargy to produce, on the four-course, £4.75 set meal, onion tart and calves' liver with avocado and pilaf rice.

Bread and butter puddings contained hardly any bread. That made it absolutely delicious, of course, and if more English people made it like this there would

served us at least smiled where he could not comprehend. But the cold curried apple soup, the chocolate and chestnut bombe, tasted of nothing at all. Towards the end of the meal they burn the toast for the staff lunch, but this is an English tradition as old as King Alfred. Various people have said that Mr Carrer's cafe-wines have deteriorated in quality: we think they are right.

The team's appreciative report on the restaurant at the new Berkeley Hotel—whether they were taken by a peer who had been a Gay Young Thing 50 years ago, in the heyday of the old Berkeley—contains a sly reference to "the best hotel dish for the price that we tasted this year, their râble de lièvre sauce poivrade (£1.75), garnished with chestnut tartlets made with deliciously buttery pastry, and served with a most gracious sauce". At the same meal, they were pleased to discover that the Ch. Langlois Barton '64 at £5 would have been unobtainable at the price in Paris, that it was excellently served too. A pity there was so little good cheese to eat with it.

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Chess

Playing for high stakes

Just as Sir John Betjeman is fond of drawing our attention to some pleasingly hideous Victorian monstrosity so the Soviet master Jakob Neushtadt loves to delve into the history of chess of the last century. Every now and again you see a piece by him in a Russian chess magazine in which he writes about some chess event that occurred during the lifetime of Dickens or, a little later, that of Trollope.

In the most recent issue of the Russian chess journal "64", that for the period November 15-21, he has a half page headed "Steinitz despatches a move". From this it emerges that he is dealing with Steinitz as a correspondence player and further that it concerns a match of two games that was played by correspondence 100 years ago between London and Vienna. He gives the two games, one starting with the English Opening and the other with a rare variation of the Scotch Game.

These games were both quite long, 49 moves each, and it occurred to me that if the games were by correspondence then they must have taken considerably more time than just the year to be played. And then I remembered that almost two years ago, when preparing a biography of Stanton for an encyclopaedia of chess which I am editing, I had come across a reference to the match in question in *The Chess Player's Chronicle* for 1874.

I made my way through the stacks of chess magazines in the erstwhile small bedroom which, like nearly all the rooms of my house, has been taken over by chess-books and journals. There I found the appropriate volume and discovered that the first moves were dispatched on June 1, 1872. What is more, this was not a simple correspondence match by letter but the moves were first sent by telegraph and only subsequently confirmed in writing. Further it was the City of London Chess Club that had challenged the Vienna Chess

Club and that this challenge had been made on March 1. The London proposal had been for a friendly match but the Viennese countered with the challenge that the match should be for £100 a side. When one considers that this would correspond to about £10,000 nowadays one realizes the size of the stake. This was accepted and powerful teams were marshalled on both sides: for London there were Blackburne, Horwitz, Lowenthal, Potter, Steinitz and Wisker; for Vienna, Berger, Czerny, Fleissig, Gelbfuss, Kolisch and Meitner. Of the Viennese team Berger is still renowned as the great end-game expert; Horwitz is famous as an end-game study composer and also as the advocate of the two Baking Bishops known as the Horwitz Bishops; but perhaps the most memorable was Kolisch who started off as a professional chess-master and then graduated, by favour of the Viennese Rothschild, into a most successful banker eventually ennobled as Baron Kolisch.

In the game in which London won, White started with the English Opening and Neushtadt writes in "64" that London commenced with the Staunton Opening. This brings me to the true centenary nature of the year 1874 for it was in that year, on June 22, that Staunton died. He was a great figure in the history of chess and, though he made many enemies by his sharp pen, he also did a great deal for the game in many ways.

The London team did not last long as such but, by the time move 14 was played it was reduced to Steinitz and Potter. There is an amusing note about this in the *Chess Player's Chronicle*: "It by no means follows that these unavoidable secessions did the London cause any harm. On the contrary, the withdrawal of four cooks probably accounts for the very superior broth produced by the remaining two". Blackburne, by the way, had to abandon the match owing to his commitments to give a series of simultaneous displays all over the country. One of these displays was held in fact at my old school.

Both games went well for the London side and in March, 1874 Vienna proposed what would nowadays be called a package deal. They resigned the English Opening game and stipulated a draw in the other. On April 1, 1874, W. N. Potter and W. Steinitz, writing from the City of London Chess Club, 34 Milk Street, begged to say that "we consent to your resignation of the match on the terms you propose, and, without prejudice to our own opinion upon the Vienna game, we agree to that game being considered as drawn. We certainly feel highly gratified at having had the good fortune to be so successful against undoubtedly the strongest Contingent Club."

"Somehow, in reading the account of the event, I get the same sort of sentimental feeling towards the Victorian time that Sir John has. It is, by the way, of no use you going to look for the City of London Club in Milk Street. They left for War-drobe Court in Queen Victoria Street, where they still were when I joined them as a young player in 1930. Then they moved to the John Lewis Partnership in a magnificent situation overlooking Cavendish Square, just

and not 24 KtxKt, on account of 24, RxR ch.

25 KtxKt KtxKt 26 KxR ch.

26. KxR would have been embarrassing for Black.

26. . . KtxR-32 PxP KtxKt

27. PxP KtxP 28 KtxP KtxP

29. PxP KtxP 30 KxP KtxP

31. KtxP KtxP 32 KxP KxP

33. KtxP KtxP 34 KxP KxP

35. KtxP KtxP 36 KxP KxP

37. KtxP KtxP 38 KxP KxP

39. KtxP KtxP 40 KxP KxP

41. KtxP KtxP 42 KxP KxP

43. KtxP KtxP 44 KxP KxP

45. KtxP KtxP 46 KxP KxP

47. KtxP KtxP 48 KxP KxP

49. KtxP KtxP 50 KxP KxP

51. KtxP KtxP 52 KxP KxP

53. KtxP KtxP 54 KxP KxP

55. KtxP KtxP 56 KxP KxP

57. KtxP KtxP 58 KxP KxP

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On the 100th anniversary of the birth of Sir Winston Churchill, A L Rowse recalls a day spent at Chartwell

Remembering the man behind the Churchill legend

Quite the most wonderful day I have spent in my life was the whole day I spent alone with Churchill at Chartwell, on Monday, July 11, 1955. I had missed my opportunity of a weekend in his company at All Souls in the dreadful 1930s, when he came down as a guest of Sir Arthur Salter—I was away, but I heard about his inveigling against Baldwin, still the leading figure in government, as just a "corpse" (Baldwin's excuse later to his friend, Warden Pember of All Souls, was "I was holding down a job of which I was physically incapable").

What a transformation in those 20 years! Britain had fought the last great war in her history, had gone out as a great power in the most heroic five years in her long recorded and Churchill, disconsidered in the appalling 30s, had emerged as the hero of the conflict, at 80 the most famous man in the world.

I was in the midst of writing my family-history of the Churchills, and needed his help for the second volume, *The Later Churchills*, particularly to get me into the Blenheim archives, which had not been open to G. M. Trevelyan for his *Age of Queen Anne*. If it had not been for Sir Winston I do not suppose I should have penetrated, and my second volume could hardly have been written. However, he wanted to see the typescript of *The Early Churchills*, and to me was generously given—over both my book, and his own *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, of which he wanted me to vet the Tudor volume.

So he arranged for me to spend a whole day with him in fine style, sending his large car flying his pennon as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports to pick me up in London. I had only the night before at Oxford finished writing *The Early Churchills*, just before midnight. Next morning, with hair an hour in hand, I spent it at Lancaster House appropriately looking at the portraits of Marlborough's daughters there, including Henrietta, second duke in her own right, who married a Godolphin—if her son had had children the dukedom would have come down through the Godolphins, instead of the Spencers.

Artistic

I was surprised by the beauty of Chartwell—I should have realized that Winston was essentially an artist, one side of him. He had improved the lovely valley with a lake in the hollow, there was a sickle-shaped wood on the opposite side, the house well added on to the terraces looking away to a distant view of the South Downs. "The way the planes came", he said, as we looked down together later—for me the day was filled to the brim with memories, of history and the historic experiences we had been through not so long before, himself a living monument to them. It was all very poignant; fortunately I wrote down every thing he said to me. Looking back over it, I rather think he means me to, himself so historically minded.

For, one thing impressed itself on me at once: he was not a bit like the ordinary politician, cagey and reserved, who won't tell you a thing—like the Simons, Halifaxs, and Atteles I well knew. Winston I reflected, was by training a soldier, by nature a writer and artist; that sums him up: he was not a good party-politician, in the deleterious sense of the

word. He followed the instincts and the impulses of his genius; instructed and inspired by his sense of history, he became a statesman with a world-view. We talked nothing but history and politics after one false start, or perhaps a try-on on his part: he led me to a window to show me his broad-mare by somebody out of someone—but soon saw that I hadn't come to Chartwell to talk about horses.

He was completely unreserved—like a man of genius, not a politician, was ready to tell me everything, answer the questions I particularly wanted to put directly, generously, no beating about the bush or trying to put one off.

When I first arrived there was a tremendous stir of activity in the house—workmen moving books to and fro, upstairs and downstairs, clearing out and changing about rooms: a pretty young secretary came in and out, a lady-housekeeper quite besotted on Lady Churchill's Siamese, "Gabriel", an ex-guardian of a butler, a Scot of ferocious aspect and whisky complexion, a private detective with fine eyes that took in everything. A regular hum of activity: evidently there was a dynamo at work there.

I looked around the library, always a fair indication of the man. Above the chimney-piece was the Frank Salisbury portrait of the wartime Prime Minister, the famous zip-suit of RAF grey. On the opposite wall, the original plan of Port Arromanches, "D" day plus 109, with all the ships, quays, tracks marked. On the table, a recent biography of Eden uppermost. The books revealed the man, history, biography, political memoirs; complete sets of the English classics, Scott, Macaulay, Johnson. There were eight or ten volumes of Marlborough's manuscript correspondence, no doubt from Blenheim; in one corner, all the original correspondence of Lord Ranke, Lord Churchill, from which Winston wrote his father's biography.

I remember that in the Kaiser's study in Berlin I had noticed the copy of that book which Winston had presented to the *Allerhöchste* after the German military manoeuvres in 1909. (The Kaiser's library, too, offered a portrait of the man: half-German, half-English; half-political biography and memoirs, half-Lutheran theology, with Bishop Boyd-Carpenter on Prayer in evidence—a friend of his fortunes and popularity.

Strategy

The best known figure in the world now entered: striped blue zip-suit, blue velvet slippers with WSC worked in gold outwards—in case anyone didn't recognize who it was. At lunch he talked politics, politicians, the war. Several things I had never heard of: for one, if the Germans had invaded the country and government had had to scatter, he had it in mind to form a triumvirate with Beaverbrook and Ernest Bevin. For another: he had thought of a slogan to broadcast in case of invasion—"You can always take one with you". But, "there was no danger in 1940". The Germans hadn't thought of ways and means of crossing the sea, had nothing prepared. If they attempted it, we should have put everything into it—the whole of the Navy and Air Force. It would have been a fearful—and he made the gesture of swimming in the Channel, with which the defeated peoples in Europe used to ram the boat across the sea.

He welcomed me with old-fashioned Victorian courtesy, bade me sit down, and we at once embarked on history. Paying me the compliment of taking me for the professional, himself the amateur, I returned his shot by describing his *Marlborough* as an historical masterpiece along with the professional's *Age of Queen Anne*. He said he now had some time, and was re-reading the history he had written before the war but was not satisfied with it. There were people, however, who would read it on account of my "notoriety". He paused. Evidently something was expected, so I came up with a mot

I registered at that point that his had been a reasoned confidence in 1940, not a mere gamble; and that, on that basis, he could assure Roosevelt that he was not backing a lost cause. I asked if he thought that Hitler's idea was that we would surrender; he said that it was in his mind. I then dared to put the question: what did he think Hitler thought of him?

He offset this with a gallant tribute to Mrs Chamberlain, "wonderful woman—twenty years, and she's quite unchanged".

It was revealing to an historian how he spoke of party politics—he didn't speak as a party-man at all: above all that, he spoke of the Conservative Party as "they"; it brought home how many years he had been a Liberal, and how loosely he sat to mere party, really a man of the centre, in many ways.

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COOLER AIR IN PEKING

would be easy to mark this week's seventh visit of Dr Kissinger to Peking as the beginning of a decline in Sino-American relations. Perhaps some cooling was inevitable from the jiving. Each country saw the antago to itself in the detente ways that differed from the perspective of the other. To the Americans friendship with China had old emotions and loved a threat. The two had fought in Korea. In political oratory ways each had seemed leaning to the other for two sides. The time had come to shake hands and bury past suspicions.

The Chinese were glad to have threat removed too. But in the text of their twentieth-century ploration the first and most important goal had been a united and independent China. Yet in 1950 unforeseen American commitment to Taiwan had foiled their pose. Thus from their side the ent was not: simply that of independent nations trying to le their differences but of one dependent state and another. The se still being impeded by action of the other.

The importance of Taiwan in Chinese minds was made clear in the start. In the comique of February, 1972, it defined as "the crucial question of relations" between China and the United States. The Chinese have not found cause to use those words since then nor do we expect any future

government in Peking to see the matter in a different light. American recognition of the government of Chiang Kai-shek is not simply in their eyes a regrettable preference by the United States from which they must be weaned but is indubitably interference by a foreign power in China's own affairs.

Critics within China of the opening to the United States three years ago will have fastened on events in the year since Dr Kissinger was last in Peking. The retirement of one senior American ambassador in Taipei was promptly followed by an even more senior replacement. Furthermore Taiwan's consular representation in the United States has been increased. Where, the critics will have asked, are the rewards of the detente? If this is indeed an issue in the current leadership differences in Peking, Taiwan must have gained real urgency in the discussions this week.

Chinese pressure on Dr Kissinger to promise some move over Taiwan can only be surmised. The first hint of urgency could have been China's message beforehand on the Soviet anniversary, suggesting to the Americans that after all the broken side of the triangular relationship between the three powers might be mended by a Sino-Soviet rapprochement. But if it was such a hint it had no substance and Mr Brezhnev, moving over from Vladivostok to Ulan Bator, was quick to dismiss it. The American-Soviet meeting

had indeed rubbed unkindly home by its acknowledged importance as well as its proximity that the detente between the two super-powers matters more to each of them than do the relations of either with China.

Must one conclude from this that the American-Chinese relationship can henceforward only deteriorate? By no means. In so far as the warmth could have been kept up, Dr Kissinger will have applied the balm. He was no doubt frank in rehearsing American difficulties in making a move that could lead to the removal of an American embassy from Taipei. Privately he might have considered that with a ruler in Taiwan rising ninety and one in Peking over eighty a change might not be far distant that could lower the tension on each side of the Formosa strait, possibly easing the American position with it. Faced with such a dilemma the statesman's motto has often been: wait and see.

Nor is there any cause to think that China will wish to reverse the policy of detente with Washington however disappointing to them progress has been over Taiwan. Even as late as 1949 they were still hoping for equal relations with the United States as a balance to their Soviet neighbour when the new regime was first launched. That remains, strategically and politically, as sound a calculation of their interest now as then. Chinese patience may thus persist however harsh the arguments have been in Peking this week.

IE JESUITS INSPECT THEMSELVES

Roman Catholic Church has mounted appearance of concern. It has seldom in its history been the monolith of common art. But the process of post-Vatican adaptation is more blemish than the fathers of second Vatican Council could have wished, and one effect of council has been to open up divisions of doctrine and discipline which were previously closed as closed. The tensions within it, and partly within the body of the Society, take many forms: between theacy of monarchical, representative and popular systems of government; concerning the true importance to be given to missions directed to final salvation and those dedicated to collective improvement of the human condition; between fidelity to the forms and es of the past and readiness to others suggested by contemporary culture; between theok native to other contexts. The Society of Jesus, far from immune to these stresses, tempts them with special pess. Nor is that surprising. Intellectual grasp and activity is hallmark of Jesuits. They were to be leading participants in profound movements, more widely spread in the world than any other, and so more subject to political and social power—more,

diversity. What is more, the history of their society shows continuing multiplicity of function and boldness of missionary approach. Matteo Ricci and his successors in China went a long way to accommodate their message to the culture and rites of Confucianism, though their toleration was eventually condemned in Rome. That controversy has an analogue in the contemporary argument about the extent to which Christian missionaries should identify themselves with the manners and secular strivings of the people they move among.

The congregation of the Society of Jesus which opens in Rome tomorrow has been summoned to consider the questions of internal order and external direction which these tensions in the church press upon the society. A traditional missionary strategy of the Jesuits has been to win influence among the influential. Hence their presence in antechambers, their acquaintance with the ways of the world, their schools for the well born, their universities. That strategy is now much less in evidence. The attention now paid, especially since Father Arrupe became General, to popular institutions and the condition of the masses reflects more than a "jesuitical" judgment about likely shifts in political and social power—more,

it is hardly to be expected that the congregation will resolve all these issues however long it sits. One can, though, with some confidence wish it better success than attended the synod of bishops recently gathered in Rome, which traversed with travail some of the same ground.

X AND THE COUNTRY HOUSE

Today is the final day of the exhibition "The Destruction of Country House" at the Victoria and Albert Museum, a striking exercise in allusive controversy to find in a national museum. If the exhibition has slightly fallen short of effect that might have been due to it, that is due partly to a unduly shrill tone and to the benign vagueness with which the Government's own Paper last August indicated the likely effects on its of historic or artistic of the proposed wealth tax. exhibition did not give sufficient credit to the fact that the past 20 years a system been achieved which has in main made it possible to et great houses from the r economic and social ges of the period. Nevertheless there is cause for t whether the system will one to provide sufficient tax. The new wealth tax being discussed by a Commons t committee, but it is acknowledged that the tax must not allowed to lead to the aral of the national age. Special arrangements planned for historic houses works of art, on condition the public is given access em. The value of these cons has yet to be seen:

certainly no automatic exemption for historic houses is intended. The new capital transfer tax will provide broadly the same exemptions in this context as already exist in respect of capital gains tax and estate duty, with the important exception that the estate duty relief for owners of agricultural land and woodland is to be ended. This is bound to have a serious effect for many of the country houses still in private hands depend heavily on the income from their estates, small though it now is in relation to the capital value of the land. Wealth tax, too, whatever remissions are proposed for the house and its contents, is also likely to affect this relationship of house and estate.

The future of the country house will have been a matter of renewed concern even if no new taxes had been contemplated. The Historic Buildings Councils provide grants towards repairs (although only in cases where the owner's finances are such that the future of the house seems secure). The National Trust has acquired many houses through gifts and legacies (but it can only take those that are provided with endowments sufficient for their upkeep). Visiting country houses has become a popular national pastime and an important source of financial

support, though few houses can hope to meet more than a fraction of their costs in this way. The system has worked well in a period of relative prosperity, but it could soon go awry if upkeep costs continue to rise at their present rate, if the price of petrol discourses the paying visitor, and if landowners' other sources of income remain in the stock market doldrums.

The system is not adapted to coping with large numbers of country houses destitute of means to contribute to their own support. For central or local government to take over more than a few would be an unwarrantable charge on public funds. Many houses, especially in remote areas, have little chance of being turned to other uses. For many, perhaps most, the sensible solution is to make it possible for private owners to remain in charge. It certainly follows that the public should have opportunities to see the houses to whose upkeep they are contributing. The wealth tax relaxations need to be substantial, and there is a case for income tax relief on the cost of repairs to houses open to the public. In one way or another, the government must fulfil the obligation it has acknowledged, to safeguard our heritage of country houses.

SIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

COUNT Nikolai Tolstoy

Nicholas Bethell's articles on the reparation of all Soviet citizens at the end of World War II sympathetically portrayed the e of the tragedy. While I that the policy was on the misinformed and inhumane, he is in one material respect to Eden. This is where he states that he is of no documents that support the idea that Stalin was ready to obtain the Allied prisoners as hosts to the British government. This is true in so far as no documents making such threats were made.

In the course of preparing a full history of the policy of forcible repatriation of Russians, I have had occasion to record hundreds of eye-witness accounts of all aspects of this grim business. Two of these, both acting in official capacity at the time (one in England, the other in Norway), recorded General Ratov, a somewhat unsavoury Soviet repatriation representative, as having made exactly such a threat. That it was not an idle one appears from the testimony of an RAF officer, who was a prisoner of the Germans. At the end of the war he found himself with other prisoners in a camp at Luchow, near Berlin. There they were overrun by the Red Army, who made no attempt to release them,

but held them as virtual prisoners.

On one occasion an American convoy arrived to take them home. They scrambled on to the trucks, but the Soviet guards opened fire on them, upon which "we all clambered back even faster than we had left". Eventually the prisoners, including my informant, were taken to the Elbe and exchanged "one for one" with Russians freed from German captivity by the Allies.

This incident surely speaks for itself, and shows that Eden's fears were not entirely groundless.

Yours faithfully,

NIKOLAI TOLSTOY,

Gable House,

Parbrook,

Near Glastonbury,

Somerset.

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ASEA

advanced technology for

AUTOMATION and

COMPUTER CONTROL

Watney Mann & Truman Holdings chairman goes in shake-up of operations

Maurice Corina and Ricard Ildall, the top-level shakeup of the Watney Mann & Truman Holdings brewing group, involving departure of Mr Michael Webster, the chairman, has been agreed by the parent Grand Metropolitan. It comes only months after the complete reorganization of the corporate structure for brewing, and a year after detailed internal review of future strategy.

Watney Mann & Truman Holdings is the holding enterprise for six operating subsidiaries and, in addition, is responsible for investments in certain associated companies.

A spokesman said last night the relationship would not basically change, but it was intended that certain services previously provided by the holding company would become the responsibility of operating companies.

"In particular, in the area of financial administration the operating subsidiaries shall report more directly to Grand Metropolitan's head office," he added.

Under the changes, Mr A. T. R. Nicholson, the financial director of the brewing holding company, is leaving, along with Mr Webster. Mr J. M. Hoare is moved on to the board of Watney International, which is to have Mr Grinstead as its chairman.

Last night there were strong suggestions that troubles on the developing international side of the brewing operations had accelerated changes. Watney International, which has expanded strongly in the European Community markets, said it had about half the total

assets of Grand Metropolitan in the half year ended last March, brewing profits fell 11% on the comparative period a year before.

Besides the new chairman for holdings, Watney Mann & Truman Brewers gets Mr S. H. Threadgill as chief executive. New posts include Mr E. Williamson, chief executive of Chef and Brewer.

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MI voice computer responds to selects

Computer instructions can now be given to computer systems via a new range of equipment announced yesterday by Threshold.

The equipment has a programmed vocabulary of 150 words which it can recognize, irrespective of accent or dialect, against competing back-end sounds of an office or

really the equipment will be particularly suitable for increasing efficiency where manually operated computer techniques cannot be applied by the operator's hands and are already occupied.

Apart from use in business, the equipment can also be used to make life easier for physically handicapped users. Although it would be expensive, it could provide a more efficient alternative to the "suck" system for operating equipment for the disabled.

It can control the operation of lighting, heating, telephone, radio and television and type letters.

John Saunders, marketing manager of EMI Threshold, said if the operator was unable to move the particular way he pronounced words, would be able to sometimes do so with a whistle.

The equipment was developed by EMI. Machines will be made by EMI Threshold, a company being jointly formed 60:40 basis by EMI and Threshold Technology Inc. EMI invested almost £500,000 in United States developers of equipment, and has a 25 per cent stake in Threshold.

Equipment is already on sale in the United States. It will be marketed throughout the world in the United States and the first generation machines will cost £12,000.

Britain, one of the first countries of the system, is VIP 100, will be in for bank where it will be in daily foreign exchange actions.

NatWest will clarify speculative issues

By Our Banking Correspondent

National Westminster Bank is expected to make a statement today to clarify certain speculative reports in the stock market which resulted in the bank's share price falling by 4p to 90p yesterday. At one time the shares moved as low as 88p.

Last night, Sir John Pridexus, the chairman, and Mr Alex. Dibbs, the chief executive, met to discuss the situation, but the bank declined to make any comment on the subject of their talks.

Stock market speculation centred around reports that the bank had arranged a substantial standby credit facility with the Bank of England. This, it was thought, had been arranged in connection with the bank's dispute with former financial tycoon, Signor Michele Sindona, who has claimed that certain foreign exchange losses incurred by two of his banks should be attributable to International

Westminster Bank, a subsidiary of NatWest.

Last night, however, the Bank of England categorically denied the existence of any standby facility.

Signor Sindona has filed a suit with Milan tribunal, and the Milan newspaper *Panorama* has published a photostat reproduction of a letter, dated November 30, 1972, reportedly from an International Westminster Bank manager, authorizing Banca Unione, one of Sindona's banks, to carry out certain foreign exchange transactions.

The manager concerned has since left the bank.

International Westminster Bank has said that it has "absolutely no liability at all" and that all its contracts with the Sindona group of banks have been fulfilled.

A second factor behind yesterday's share price fall was a substantial "put-through" of NatWest shares in the stock market.

US seeks study of uranium capacity and oil cut target

Paris, Nov 29.—Proposals for a rapid survey of enriched uranium production capacity and markets, together with a cutback target for oil imports and a fund to finance new energy sources, are the main features of a document submitted by the United States to its 15 partners in the International Energy Agency here.

Informed sources here said the proposals were presented at the first meeting of the governing board of the agency on November 18 and are now under discussion by the 15 other governments.

America proposes that a high-level expert group should be set up immediately to carry out a detailed survey of the enriched uranium market's needs, production and pricing structure.

The sources said this survey, to be completed by December 31, would include a comparative study of the different uranium enrichment plants' construction programmes already under consideration.

Once the survey is completed within the 16 countries within the agency should, the Americans

urge, immediately discuss conditions governing the construction of new enrichment capacity, particularly how they should be financed and where sited.

America proposes that the countries should cut oil imports by the equivalent of 3 million barrels daily or 160 million tonnes a year by the end of 1975, and calls for the setting up of a joint fund to finance investments in new energy sources.

It is stressed these investments must be guaranteed against a decline in oil prices by appropriate measures.

It is also suggested by the United States that in addition to the working party on long-term cooperation and encouragement of energy research and development, certain projects already at an advanced stage should be implemented promptly.

These include combining work undertaken in the member countries on controlled nuclear fusion, nuclear reactor safety, and development of efficient hydrogen-based energy sources.

The Times index : 65.24 — 0.66

FT index : 166.3 — 1.4

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
5p to 50p	4p to 15p	
10p to 162p	5p to 25p	
1p to 8p	7p to 57p	
5p to 103p	3p to 20p	
5p to 105p	1p to 15p	
1p to 28p	1p to 8p	
2p to 22p	5p to 112p	
FC Finance	8p to 28p	
GEC	4p to 48p	
Hammerson	5p to 130p	
Lyons J Ord	5p to 65p	
Lin Tin	6p to 105p	
Tobe Invest	6p to 138p	
Union Corp	12p to 440p	
French Kier	5p to 50p	
Osborn S	5p to 25p	
Rob Caledon	7p to 57p	
Stephen J	3p to 20p	
Unilever	1p to 15p	
Vickers	1p to 8p	
Yarrow	5p to 112p	
Austrolia S	1.62	1.77
Austria Sch	42.50	40.50
Belgium Fr	89.50	86.75
Canada S	2.345	2.295
Denmark Kr	13.80	13.40
Finland Mkk	8.75	8.50
France Fr	10.95	10.65
Germany DM	5.90	5.70
Greece Dr	75.75	72.50
Hongkong S	11.50	11.15
Italy Lr	1630.00	1580.00
Japan Yn	725.00	700.00
Netherlands Gld	6.10	5.90
Norway Kr	12.50	12.40
Portugal Esc	59.00	56.75
Spain Pes	136.25	131.25
Sweden Kr	10.15	9.85
Switzerland Fr	6.50	6.25
US S	2.37	2.32
Yugoslavia Ddr	44.00	41.75

rose by 10 points to 2250 yesterday. The effective "copper" rate was 20.5 per cent. Cocoa futures were lower. Although copper closed very steady, wire bars were £1.75 down. Tin lost £15 and zinc £3.25. Reuters index was 2 points up at 224.8.

Reports, page 20

Equities remained unsettled. gilt-edged securities were quiet.

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

كذا من الأصل

Other pages

Base Rates Table

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Lockheed hopes to sell new TriStar to Aeroflot

Atlanta, Nov 29.—Mr Dan Haughton, chairman of Lockheed Aircraft, says his company and the Soviet airline Aeroflot have reached an agreement on a joint study of future aircraft purchases by the airline.

Some 250 people will be affected by the closure of the production department, stated the company. "But it is intended that a substantial administration and distribution operation will continue on the site," Brewing of the leading brand, Maes Pils, would continue at Waarlos, as would production of other brands, including Watneys, at Chatelet.

It is just over a year since Grand Metropolitan decided that Watney Mann and Truman should become a single profit centre, under Mr Webster but answerable to Mr Grinstead. Complicated negotiations between Grand Metropolitan and the separate boards of Watney Mann and Truman took place, ending with a statement that the creation of a new holding company would "provide the best basis for improving the commercial performance of the brewing companies".

The necessary changes were not fully implemented until October 1 this year.

Commenting last night on the reshuffle, Mr Grinstead said that more direct control of the brewing division was desirable to enable it to meet the current "challenging economic conditions". Mr Webster was not available to comment. His wife said he was "out shooting".

Aircraft and computers are often cited by congressmen in this context.

Electricity boards may be fused

An inquiry into the structure of the electricity industry in England and Wales will be announced early next week by Mr Eric Varley, the Secretary of State for Energy.

The Department of Energy and many people within the industry are known to be unhappy about the complex structure of the industry in England and Wales. While Scotland has two boards that produce electricity and sell it direct to customers, the industry in the rest of the country is divided into separate generation and sales organisations.

A new report by the New York Federal Reserve shows that total intervention to support the dollar in the exchange markets in the three months to the end of October was \$210.5m (about £90.7m). Fully \$202.7m of this was in Deutsche marks.

Bankers believe that the Fed's intervention this month has exceeded the \$200m limit.

The new Fed report also gave details for the first time of the full extent of its purchase of the foreign exchange operations of the Franklin National Bank, which included some 300 forward contracts for sales and purchases of foreign currencies totalling about \$725m.

The inquiry could take up to a year to complete and could lead to the dismembering of the CEBG into regional areas. The combination of these areas with the regional sales boards would provide Scottish-style units.

However, the CEBG network was devised to serve England and Wales as a whole and a large amount of its generating capacity is centred around the Midland and Yorkshire coalfields. This concentration of generating capacity makes it difficult to split up the CEBG.

It is stressed these investments must be guaranteed against a decline in oil prices by appropriate measures.

It is also suggested by the United States that in addition to the working party on long-term cooperation and encouragement of energy research and development, certain projects already at an advanced stage should be implemented promptly.

These include combining work undertaken in the member countries on controlled nuclear fusion, nuclear reactor safety, and development of efficient hydrogen-based energy sources.

Citibank holds prime rate at 10 pc

From Frank Vogl
United States Economics
Correspondent

Washington, Nov 29

First National City Bank ended its seven-week run of record rates cuts today by announcing that it was changing its interest rate setting formula and holding its prime lending rate at 10 per cent.

The decision surprised many observers and was a key factor behind a general weakening of share values on Wall Street today.

But the Citibank decision coincided with further unfavourable news from the automobile industry, where sharper than expected production cuts are being planned in the face of declining consumer demand.

There were some indications, however, that the White House model would have a range of about 5,000 miles, an improvement of some 1,200 miles over the current design.

Frank Vogl writes: The Russians appear now to be stepping up their efforts to obtain United States aircraft. A high level Soviet negotiating team recently held a new round of talks in Seattle with the Boeing company, and industry sources believe the Russians will shortly place firm orders for five or 10 Boeing 747 jumbo jets.

But the sale of Boeing aircraft on the holding of formal Lockheed-Russia talks could well be run into difficulties with the Federal Reserve to ensure that new credit demand remains relatively tight.

Many bankers welcome the Citibank move as it gives the market some time to consolidate rate levels around the 10 per cent mark. They believe rates have fallen too sharply in recent weeks and has tended to unsettle the markets. They agree, however, that the general interest rate trend is still downwards.

Meanwhile, White House officials are privately admitting that President Ford has become deeply worried by the growing signs of recession. They suggest that the administration still firmly maintains that the chief economic problem must remain inflation.

However, they point out that the President is likely to show himself to be more receptive to arguments by congressional leaders in coming weeks against his proposed tax rise and against some of the social welfare programme budget cuts which he has suggested.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

Many people dream of becoming their own boss. Indeed, there are many advantages to being self-employed; there are also some drawbacks.

Apart from the latest furor about higher National Insurance contributions which Mrs Castle will be asking from those self-employed with higher incomes, there is the more longstanding complaint that the self-employed do not get the same range of benefits as the employed.

One of the most galling relates to reciprocal medical services, which have now been made available in EEC countries. Upon presentation of the appropriate form E111 anyone falling ill in any of the other eight Community countries will be entitled to the state medical services provided in each member country.

However, this holds true only for the Briton in the employed category; the self-employed person is not entitled to whatever level of free

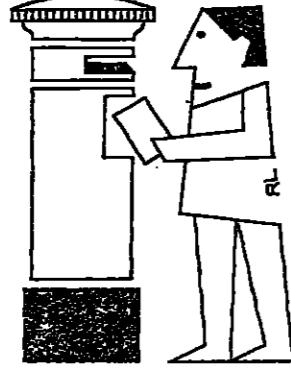
medical service is provided in the other EEC countries, even though he is, so to speak, a fully paid-up member of our National Health Service.

The official answer to this unfortunate situation is quite simply that the National Health Service equivalents in all of the Community countries, Denmark excepted, do not cover self-employed persons. Therefore British self-employed are excluded even though they are paying their full contributions to their own health service.

On the wider issue of reciprocal health treatment in general, why, one asks, is the existence of the E111 form—which must be obtained before journeying and falling ill, if it is to be of any use—so little known? Goodness knows, travellers are bombarded with information and literature about the things they may not do. The same assiduity has been conspicuously absent in telling people of the benefits of form E111.

Taxation: Readers ask

Those tax forms • More about working abroad



My article on scrip dividend options attracted a number of interesting letters and rather than devote a small amount of space to them now I will deal with the matters raised more fully in a subsequent article.

In discussing the annual tax return some weeks ago I said that "failure to return the form within the stipulated time can involve the individual in penalties". A reader tells me:

"I have a Tax Return 1973-74 in front of me and cannot find anything which implies that I have to complete it. As I understand it, this is only a convenient method for HMRC to collect information, the only compulsion on the taxpayer being to inform the Inland Revenue what they need to know. How he informs them is immaterial."

Yes, I agree. Section 8 of the Tax Management Act, 1970, says: "Any person may be required by a notice given to him by an inspector or other officer of the board to deliver to the officer within the time limited by the notice a return of his income, computed in accordance with the Income Tax Acts and specifying each separate source of income and the amount from each source."

The section does not say that the return has to be made on the Inland Revenue's form. However, the section does go on to specify the information that has to be shown and the declaration that has to be made.

A taxpayer could find that on a "do-it-yourself" form he or she misses out some vital detail and the inconvenience (and perhaps penalties) of putting the matter right could far outweigh the satisfaction of having created one's own tax return.

When writing on the subject of foreign income I said: "Those who receive pensions and annuities from abroad and who are both resident and domiciled in this country will find a substantial change in the law. Up to April 5, 1974, such income was taxed to the extent that it was remitted to the United Kingdom."

This method has now ceased and the whole amount of the pension or annuity is taxable, less deduction of one-tenth. In other words 90 per cent of the income is taxable.

A reader writes: "I consulted my local tax department reference the 10 per cent deduction before tax return. They inform me that this applies only to people who at present have only part of their pension transferred from abroad to this country and who leave the other part in the country of origin."

In view of this I would have

thought the nine-month contract would not attract the 100 per cent deduction unless the reader took up another employment while abroad for three months to make up the 365 days.

In writing about the new provisions on overdraft interest I pointed out that if an overdraft was in existence on March 26, 1974, interest can be claimed for one year only, up to April 5, 1975, after which it ceases.

There is a limit to the amount allowable, which is geared to the amount of the debit balance on March 26 and to the rate of interest then being paid.

I went on: "There is a useful relieving provision which should be borne very much in mind during the course of this tax year. If the overdraft is replaced by a fixed loan before April 5, 1975, tax relief will be allowed on the interest for a further five years up to April 5, 1980."

However, relief for those five years will continue to be restricted to the debit balance and rate of interest prevailing on March 26, 1974.

The words in italics should have been omitted. The restriction is confined to the amount of the debit balance. It does not extend to the rate of interest where the overdraft is converted to a fixed loan, and I apologize to those who were misled.

Still on the subject of interest and the transitional provisions a reader asks me to explain in what circumstances will there not be a disallowance of the first £35 interest on loans which were in existence on March 26, 1974.

The effect of section 19(3) of the Finance Act, 1974, is that interest will not be restricted for the first £35 if either it was "protected interest" under the old law or if it is eligible for relief under the new law.

What this amounts to is that interest on loans taken out for the following purposes before March 26, 1974, will be fully deductible without the £35 disallowance. Very briefly they are loans for the purchase or improvement of land and buildings, or to purchase machinery or plant used in a partnership or employment—the interest on these was "protected" under the old law;

loans applied in acquiring an interest in a close company or partnership; loans to pay estate duty or finally loans to purchase a life annuity in the case of elderly persons.

I shall be looking at this last type of loan in more detail another time.

Vera Di Palma

Talking shop

Counting the cost of a party

Parties always cost more than you expect, mainly because it is so difficult to calculate real costs in advance.

A big "do" like a wedding reception can easily run into several hundreds of pounds. But professional caterers are usually engaged who know what they are about and can give fairly accurate estimates.

However, functions held at home on an apparently more modest scale and without outside help can total equally large sums.

PARTY DATA

	FLUID OUNCES
Wine glasses	5
Typical public house size	5
Caterer's measure	6½
Wine bottles	26½
Typical "bottle" size	26½
Litre	35.18
Magnum (usually applied to champagne)	54
Spirits: pub measures	32
Wine consumption	
Lunch: allow just under ½ bottle per person.	
Evening: allow at least 1 bottle per person.	

At one time bottle parties, where guests brought their own drink and the hosts provided the premises and the food, offered an answer to budget entertaining. This is no longer the case, because food prices have increased to such an extent that in entertainment terms they can now rival those of drink.

A good example is cheese, once an economical mainstay of party catering. Although subsidized, cheese is now retailing at a minimum of about 40p per lb, and a quarter pound is the average portion a guest at a wine and cheese party would consume.

This is more than 25 per cent up on a year ago, which was up again on 1972. So anyone running a wine and cheese party for the first time for several years could be in for a nasty surprise on prices.

A magnum is a term normally applied to champagne to mean two bottles or 54 fluid ounces. A litre, however, is a standard measure which for the purposes of comparison can be translated as 35.18 fluid ounces, and

For about the same cost, if this is the main factor, could be offered a round of ham sandwiches each. Taking cooked ham at a cost of between 18p a quarter pound (Woolworth special offer price for Walls brand) and 27p for the country smoked variety, a ham sandwich works out at between 7p and 10p a round.

Again, at one time the frugal-minded could save on sandwich costs by using margarine instead of butter. This is no longer so, because butter (Woolworth own-brand variety) costs 12p and the same store charges 11p for standard Stork margarine.

Today, the only point is using margarine is for ease of handling or for preference.

Wine prices, on the other hand, have remained comparatively stable. Greater competition among more retailers and suppliers has helped to balance increases at the cheaper end of the market.

It is possible, at present, to serve a glass of wine (6oz size) at home at a cost of 11p, although connoisseurs may wrinkle their noses at the taste.

Leaving aside subjective judgments, there are so many varieties of bottle size on the market that it can be a real problem to evaluate value for money. In one wine shop recently I saw a magnum of cheap wine on offer at £1.08, a litre at 79p and a double litre at £1.24. "Which?" I asked myself, "was the cheapest wine?"

One of the difficulties in performing such calculations is that there is apparently no standardized measure for a "bottle" of wine. The Wine and Spirit Association of Great Britain says carefully that the average contents of a bottle of ordinary wine is usually 26½ fluid ounces.

However, a bottle of champagne will usually contain 27 fluid ounces.

This is more than 25 per cent up on a year ago, which was up again on 1972. So anyone running a wine and cheese party for the first time for several years could be in for a nasty surprise on prices.

An equally important factor in gauging party requirements



We can't all entertain in this style...

is volume consumption. How much friends are likely to drink at that amount.

Therefore, on a cost per fluid ounce basis, the double litre-sized bottle came out best over the magnum, but only just. Unfortunately, having completed the necessary intricate calculations, the manager informed me that he could not recommend the particular double-litre.

However, a bottle of champagne will usually contain 27 fluid ounces.

A magnum is a term normally applied to champagne to mean two bottles or 54 fluid ounces. A litre, however, is a standard measure which for the purposes of comparison can be translated as 35.18 fluid ounces.

Therefore, on a cost per fluid ounce basis, the double litre-sized bottle came out best over the magnum, but only just.

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An equally important factor

is volume consumption. How much friends are likely to drink at that amount.

Therefore, on a cost per fluid ounce basis, the double litre-sized bottle came out best over the magnum, but only just. Unfortunately, having completed the necessary intricate calculations, the manager informed me that he could not recommend the particular double-litre.

One of the difficulties in performing such calculations is that there is apparently no standardized measure for a "bottle" of wine. The Wine and Spirit Association of Great Britain says carefully that the average contents of a bottle of ordinary wine is usually 26½ fluid ounces.

However, a bottle of champagne will usually contain 27 fluid ounces.

This is more than 25 per cent up on a year ago, which was up again on 1972. So anyone running a wine and cheese party for the first time for several years could be in for a nasty surprise on prices.

An equally important factor

in gauging party requirements

drinks are served) for a luncheon affair, but nearer 60p per head for a four-course evening event.

On this basis, assuming a luncheon at 70p a bottle, it would be between at least £14 and £16 to entertain a party of people in wine costs alone. It would be as well to budget extra consumption. Food would probably add a minimum cost as much again in raw material.

Once you are reconciled to spending these sorts of sums there are a number of items that can be made to suit guests better, to instill a sense of occasion, or as well as wine and this, no cost much more.

Wine, particularly at a dinner party, may appear to go furthest if smaller glasses are used. Typical public house wine contains 5oz of fluid, but normal party goblets typically hold 6½oz size.

If you do not already have glassware, it is a good idea to measure the capacity of those that intend to use beforehand.

Cash and carry warehousers and suppliers to deep-freezer owners can be a good source of glassware. They usually stock large-sized packs of foodstuffs big discount.

Glasses can usually be obtained from the merchant supplies drinks.

Aug. Barnett, for example, which specializes in retailing wine, has been priced at £1.25 a glass, plus 10p for extra charge.

On top of any costs to special equipment, should be added any additional charge for decoration and entertainment, such as music, as well as those associated with up-keep of the cost.

Patricia Tisciano

Insurance

Many meanings of Lloyd's

In these days when doubts are expressed about insurers which are not "household names", much more is being heard of Lloyd's, because its high level of security is a by-word throughout the world.

But there are varying contexts in which the name Lloyd's may be used, sometimes to give an aura of respectability which may not be fully justified. So watch out when the word Lloyd's is mentioned—and make sure you understand how it is being used.

The MIB pays out in respect of claims made by policyholders at Lloyd's on a per capita basis. The double-litre bottle came out best over the magnum, but only just.

In the first place, there is insurance placed with underwriters at Lloyd's over the large insurance companies. They do not have to contribute to the sums paid out by the Motor Insurers' Bureau to meet the commitments of insurance companies which have gone into liquidation.

Because Lloyd's has its own Central Fund, motor underwriters at Lloyd's score over the large insurance companies. They do not have to contribute to the sums paid out by the Motor Insurers' Bureau to meet the commitments of insurance companies which have gone into liquidation.

The largest broking firms in the country are Lloyd's brokers, but a firm does not necessarily have to be large to be at Lloyd's. The Committee of Lloyd's All business plan Lloyd's passes through hands, although other brokers or agents may be responsible for handling the business first place or for sending London.

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The idea behind most forms of reinsurance is simply to even out the peaks and troughs of experience over the years. In no way is it a guarantee that the company will remain in business, and it is most confusing

when phrases such as "by Lloyd's" are used, since it can give a completely false impression of the situation.

Finally, there are the firm Lloyd's brokers. There are more than 200 firms of insurance brokers permitted by the committee of Lloyd's to transact business with underwriters. They do not have to contribute to the sums paid out by the Motor Insurers' Bureau to meet the commitments of insurance companies which have gone into liquidation.

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John Drumm

Each year, there is a very strict audit of each member's underwriting accounts and a member could be asked to put up additional security where the authorities consider this to be warranted by the state of the underwriting account and the outlook for the future.

A further safeguard is that each year, every underwriting member has to furnish a guarantee policy based on his premium income. This must be subscribed by other members of Lloyd's according to conditions set out by the Committee of Lloyd's.

The final form of longstop is a Central Fund (which is financed by all members by means of a levy on their premium income). This fund is intended to meet the underwriting liabilities of any member, in the unlikely event of his security and personal assets being insufficient to meet his underwriting commitments.

It is only policyholders who can benefit from this fund, not the members of Lloyd's, each of whom is still responsible for his liabilities to the full extent of his private fortune.

As might be expected, no Lloyd's policyholder has suffered

losses in the last few years, but the Central Fund has been

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Investor's week

Resilient market • decade with ICI

stock market has stood up in a week which brought evidence of pressures on world currencies and on the United States economy. Gilts looked sturdier, helped by successive falls in United States prime rates, equities have proved least against any implications for property and banking risks arising from the collapse of Triumph Investment while that strengthens the argument of those who argue that prices are at, or near, the bottom. It seems too early to plead case for any genuine or sustained recovery.

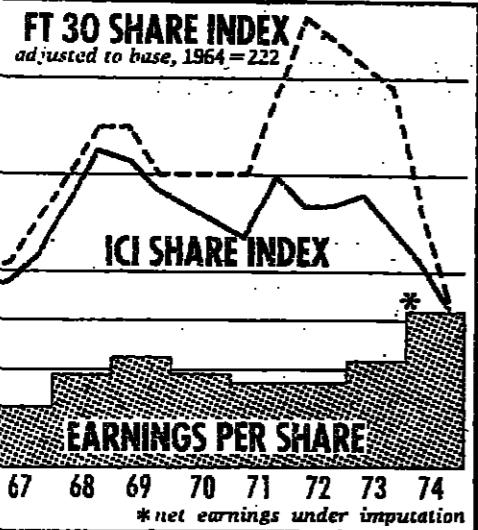
At a time a year ago shares in ICI Carbonising had only embarked on a run that to see them up to a peak of soon after the turn of the national Carbonising had a per cent interest in the joint drilling in block 3/8 the North Sea and a share was duly struck in form of the Ninian field, then the share price had risen to as low as 17p, dragged

down by general market conditions and, more specifically, by concern over both the state of new Labour Government's plans for the North Sea.

Thursday, however, produced some cheering news on the solid fuel front, with the group reporting that for the six months to end September sales had leapt from £10.9m to £17.9m and that a loss of £948,000 had been turned into a profit of £454,000. It was also clear that there had been a big improvement in the group's liquidity.

Clearly the second half outcome is largely dependent on steady supplies from the coal pits this winter, but, given that, there seems plenty of scope for further improvement and a return to the dividend stakes.

Potentially more interesting, however, is the future of the group's North Sea interest. NC's share of the Ninian field fund, £10m, and, when set against a capitalisation of only £3.3m at 28p, there must be the possibility that NC will have to consider a merger with a larger group or sell its North Sea interest (at a handsome profit) to one of the majors.



any investor what he wants will describe for you his particular version of the balance between profit and risk.

A less than perfect world is not likely to attain it amongst the shares which offer a reasonable rate of return. ICI stands partly, thanks to its big stake in technology: high-growth areas, which include not chemicals and petrochemicals but also fibres, plastics, fibres and metal fabrications. The group's sales have steadily risen to £2,166m in the past decade, its profits by 10 per cent and its earnings failed to cover the dividend.

The economic boom of 1968-69 did something to obscure the memory of this faux pas and the group's profits in 1969 were double those of three years earlier. A purchase in early 1969 would have been in money terms by the end of the year, but not by as much as the index.

However, the confidence in the sector thus tenuously restored was speedily eroded as 1970-71 brought renewed overcapacity and renewed slumps: ICI's profits dipped from £181m to £149m over the two years.

The investor of early 1969 was not, in consequence, to win out again against the index until the autumn of this year, at which point the money value of his investment would have been down by 48 per cent, and that of the index investor by rather more. Since then our hypothetical investor has seen the value of his shares in ICI slide far more rapidly than the index, as investors came to terms with the fact that another bout of overcapacity was on the way.

It remains to be seen if ICI can perform any better over the next 10 years.

Bill Taylor bought his 1,500 shares of Johnson & Firth Brown at 31p last Monday, spending a total of £465. He also had to pay £5.81 in commission, 46p in VAT, £10 in stamp duty and 10p on the contract stamp, bringing the overall cost of the purchase to £481.37.

FE

Ind-up

Asset unit trusts go Slater Walker

last Britannia unit trust has been sold. Before its parent company, Britannia Securities, was it with a deal with Cetel, a Jessel associated company which would have resulted in the group getting a market quotation.

However, the Cetel deal was abortive in the wake of its problems with London Unity and General Insurance. This has not necessarily been to the disadvantage of unit-holders. For now have come under the control of Slater Walker and its unit trust group.

Management have been the most successful of trust groups in recent despite the fact that the trusts had different operational philosophies.

Its 16 unit trusts are predominantly specialist in outlook. The nine Slater funds into the general category. There will be some gains between the two sets but at this stage there is much apparent rationality to be achieved.

However, the new Slater

is now worth £80m, a

right doubling up in size. But

FINANCIAL NEWS

J'son Matthey has agreed £4.1m Corp tax deferral from Jan 1

Reporting interim profits up from £6.72m to £8.45m—masking an improvement of around 14 per cent in the second quarter—Johnson Matthey, the big bullion, metals and banking concern, says that a £4.1m deferral of corporation tax due on January 1 has been agreed with the Inland Revenue.

When the Finance Bill got earlier this month, becomes

law, the company will make a further statement giving details of the tax consequences for the group, given the Chancellor's concessions on stock appreciation.

Sales for the six-months' period to September 30, excluding Johnson Matthey Bankers, were £158.82m, against £151.47m in the same period last year. The interim dividend goes up from 5.35p a share gross to 7.47p a share gross.

Profit is struck after interest charges of £2.12m, against £530,000, while estimated tax of £5.78m arising on the increased value of precious base metal stocks has been charged against reserves.

Precious metal stocks are valued at base prices. Johnson Matthey says that if market prices had been applied, the amount in the balance-sheet would have been higher by £19.78m.

Reverse at Morgan Grampian

The market was prepared for a reduced profit at Morgan Grampian after the chairman's warning at the annual meeting, but the first-half loss of £22,000, against a profit of £1.1m, caught it by surprise and resulted in a 7-point drop in 27p in the shares.

The board says that it has discontinued unprofitable activities to secure future growth, and forecasts a return in former profit levels on the magazine side. This section, together with book publishing, has seen its interim profits fall from £947,000 to £536,000, while there was nothing from the newspaper side (which was sold in 1973) against £497,000. Turnover is up from £7.7m to £9.05m, all of which comes from magazines and books, against £5.6m last year.

Ashbourne slides into £637,000 loss

Involved in the protracted imbroglio over the proposed bid by the Crest International consortium, Ashbourne Investments now reports a loss of the year to April 30. Before extraordinary items the loss was £155,000 (£165,000 profit) and after the items, £482,000, against a credit of £18,000. The "attributable" is a loss of £637,000, compared with earnings of £183,000. There is no dividend for the year, against 1.31p.

Opening check at Rediffusion

Associate companies obliging with an increased contribution of £1.26m against £834,000, the group going ahead envisaged by Rediffusion Ltd in July is manifested in a 5 per cent profits increase compared with 13 per cent for the preceding full term.

On turnover, up from £29.5m to £45.1m for the six months to September 30, pre-tax earnings rose from £6.19m to £6.5m, while the "attributable" increased from £2.98m to £3m.

The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.25p.

Rediffusion, 52 per cent owned by British Electric Traction, was caught by forecasting five months ago, though not doubting the group's innate ability to produce good results for the year, dependent on governmental interference.

Falling copper price hits Roan Cons

In the first quarter of its current year to September net profit of Roan Consolidated Mines fell from £19.27m (£12.84m) to £13.32m (£8.57m) or 25p a share. Total sales stood at £78.9m (K91m).

The reduction reflects the lower price of copper, the average sales price being K133.74 against K250.52 in the comparable period of 1973.

Block of Unicorp shares for Gen Mining

General Mining & Finance Corporation's stake in Union Corporation steadily nears the 30 per cent mark, where under Take Over Panel rules, it must bid for the rest. Yesterday, as on previous days, came word of the purchase of a further block, this time of 491,300 shares bought at an average of £6.46. The stake is now 27.1 per cent but the majority market opinion is still that General will not cross the 50 per cent mark but will block Consolidated Goldfields.

'SUITS' rise 5 pc

Trading profits increased from £2.04m to £2.5m at Scottish & Universal Investments, in the first half, and income from £861,000 to £954,000, giving a rise in turnover from £2.9m to £3.4m. Taxable profits come out 5 per cent up at £2.47m after a rise in interest on temporary loans from £325,000 to £712,000, and a dip in mortgage and debenture interest from £41,000 to £39,000. The dividend is raised from 2.2p to 2.82p. The shares closed 2 per cent up at 55.1p.

Chown tumbles

Property group Chown Securities took a knock in the year to June 30, with taxable profits tumbling from £332,000 to £188,000 and the "net" to £180,000. Turnover for the year also dropped sharply—from £5,042 to £3,18m. Per-share earnings fell from 7.7p to 4.65p. The year's payment is effectively unchanged at 2.1p. The surplus on a professional revaluation carried out this month amounted to some £2.8m.

Queen St in the red

Returning a net loss of £16,000, against a profit of £34,000, for the 24 weeks to July 24, Queen Street Warehouse says trading in the second half may not produce much reduction in the loss. Turnover was £2.1m (£2m). Liquidity has been improved by the proceeds from the sale of a property in Kingsland High Street, London, for £180,500.

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prices had been applied, the amount in the balance-sheet would have been higher by £19.78m.

First-half setback at London & Northern

By Margaret Drummond

Pre-tax profits of the house-building sector, London & Northern Securities, fell from £5.5m to £4.3m in the six months to the end of June, but group chairman, Mr J. Mackenzie is forecasting substantially better things for the second half of the year.

As reported in the group's annual statement last June, trading in the United Kingdom has been affected by shortages of building materials, high interest rates and the falling

level of activity in the house-building sector. But the group's overseas interests have been trading at record levels, while the metal reclamation and double glazing have improved sales and profitability.

The chairman forecasts a "substantial increase" in second-half profits, which will hopefully enable the full 12 months' profits to approximate with last year's level, while further good progress is expected in 1975.

The tight supply situation in building materials has eased

Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies.

Company Ord. Year Div. date Year's total Prev. year's total

Ashbourne Inv. (25p) Fin. Nil. 56c Nil. 1.31

Atwood Garages (25p) Int. 0.91 0.87 Nil. 2.12

Assoc. Manganese (50c) Fin. 26.5% 19% 5/2 41.0% 30.0%

Birmingham Mint (25p) Int. Nil. 1.6 Nil. 5.25

Bluebell (75c) Int. 1.7 1.05 19/12 2.12

Chase Securities (25p) Fin. 1.7 1.05 2/12 2.12

Crane's Screw (10p) Fin. 0.57 0.55 14/1 1.05

Glouce & Cheltenham (5p) Fin. 0.79 0.64 10/1 0.94

Hartbeest Fontein (1p) Int. 85% 50% — 150%

International Paint (5p) Fin. 3.54 3.15 5/2 11

Kleen-E-Ze (25p) Int. 2.31 2.31 28/1 13.77

Ldn & Norlh Seas (25p) Int. 1.87 1.78 Nil. 4.51

Morgan-Grampian (25p) Int. 1.44 1.25 3/1 2.95

Samuel Osborn (25p) Fin. 2.5 0.62 — 3.75

Rediffusion Int. (25p) Int. 1.25 1.22 6/1 4.85

Scots & Universal (25p) Int. 2.82 2.2 2/1 3

Siemens (10p) Int. 0.65 0.65 8/1 6.20

Tomkinson (25p) Int. 5.47 5.25 3/1 13.11

UK Optical (25p) Int. 1.49 1.28 12/2 — 4.25

Udo Gas (25p) Int. Nil. 1 — — 5.93

Bonus Web (25p) Int. Nil. 1.31 — — 5.93

*Adjusted for scrip. *Cents a share.

slowest trading of the year.

The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 0.63 to 518.56. It was off about four points at its low of the day. Declining issues moderately outpaced gainers.

Volume totalled 6,400,000 shares, compared with 14,610,000 shares on Wednesday. Turnover was lowest since August 12, 1974.

On turnover, up from £29.5m to £45.1m for the six months to September 30, pre-tax earnings rose from £6.19m to £6.5m, while the "attributable" increased from £2.98m to £3m.

The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.25p.

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The reduction reflects the lower price of copper, the average sales price being K133.74 against K250.52 in the comparable period of 1973.

However, the confidence in the sector thus tenuously restored was speedily eroded as 1970-71 brought renewed overcapacity and renewed slumps: ICI's profits dipped from £181m to £149m over the two years.

It remains to be seen if ICI can perform any better over the next 10 years.

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Stock Exchange Prices

Still weak

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began Nov 25. Dealings End Dec 6. \$ Contango Day, Dec 9. Settlement Day, Dec 17.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

مكتبة من الأصل


Leicester
...for every investor.

The Leicester Building Society has more than 100 branches throughout the U.K.
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 Until your new directory is published, look for the Leicester Permanent or Leicester Temperance Building Society

Stock	Int. Gross only Red.	Price Ch're pence	Yield	Gross High Low Company	Price Ch're pence	Yield	Gross High Low Company	Price Ch're pence	Yield	Gross High Low Company	Price Ch're pence	Yield	Gross High Low Company	Price Ch're pence	Yield			
FUNDS																		
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL																		
A - B																		
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	1.1250	2.0	ABC Ltd	15	2.4	15.75	1.7	ABC Ltd	25	4.8	19.0	1.7	
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	2.5	15.75	2.4	ABC Ltd	15	2.5	15.75	2.4	ABC Ltd	25	5.1	21.5	2.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	6.7	15.75	3.4	ABC Ltd	15	6.7	15.75	3.4	ABC Ltd	25	11.4	31.5	3.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	9.5	15.75	5.2	ABC Ltd	15	9.5	15.75	5.2	ABC Ltd	25	13.5	35.0	5.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	12.3	15.75	7.0	ABC Ltd	15	12.3	15.75	7.0	ABC Ltd	25	17.8	47.5	7.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	15.0	15.75	8.8	ABC Ltd	15	15.0	15.75	8.8	ABC Ltd	25	18.6	47.5	8.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	17.8	15.75	10.6	ABC Ltd	15	17.8	15.75	10.6	ABC Ltd	25	22.5	52.5	10.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	20.5	15.75	12.4	ABC Ltd	15	20.5	15.75	12.4	ABC Ltd	25	26.2	57.5	12.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	23.2	15.75	14.2	ABC Ltd	15	23.2	15.75	14.2	ABC Ltd	25	29.9	62.5	14.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	25.9	15.75	16.0	ABC Ltd	15	25.9	15.75	16.0	ABC Ltd	25	33.6	72.5	16.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	28.6	15.75	17.8	ABC Ltd	15	28.6	15.75	17.8	ABC Ltd	25	37.3	82.5	17.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	31.3	15.75	19.6	ABC Ltd	15	31.3	15.75	19.6	ABC Ltd	25	41.0	92.5	19.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	34.0	15.75	21.4	ABC Ltd	15	34.0	15.75	21.4	ABC Ltd	25	44.7	102.5	21.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	36.7	15.75	23.2	ABC Ltd	15	36.7	15.75	23.2	ABC Ltd	25	48.4	112.5	23.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	39.4	15.75	25.0	ABC Ltd	15	39.4	15.75	25.0	ABC Ltd	25	52.1	122.5	25.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	42.1	15.75	26.8	ABC Ltd	15	42.1	15.75	26.8	ABC Ltd	25	55.8	132.5	26.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	44.8	15.75	28.6	ABC Ltd	15	44.8	15.75	28.6	ABC Ltd	25	59.5	142.5	28.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	47.5	15.75	30.4	ABC Ltd	15	47.5	15.75	30.4	ABC Ltd	25	63.2	152.5	30.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	50.2	15.75	32.2	ABC Ltd	15	50.2	15.75	32.2	ABC Ltd	25	66.9	162.5	32.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	52.9	15.75	34.0	ABC Ltd	15	52.9	15.75	34.0	ABC Ltd	25	69.6	172.5	34.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	55.6	15.75	35.8	ABC Ltd	15	55.6	15.75	35.8	ABC Ltd	25	73.3	182.5	35.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	58.3	15.75	37.6	ABC Ltd	15	58.3	15.75	37.6	ABC Ltd	25	77.0	192.5	37.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	61.0	15.75	39.4	ABC Ltd	15	61.0	15.75	39.4	ABC Ltd	25	80.7	202.5	39.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	63.7	15.75	41.2	ABC Ltd	15	63.7	15.75	41.2	ABC Ltd	25	84.4	212.5	41.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	66.4	15.75	43.0	ABC Ltd	15	66.4	15.75	43.0	ABC Ltd	25	88.1	222.5	43.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	69.1	15.75	44.8	ABC Ltd	15	69.1	15.75	44.8	ABC Ltd	25	91.8	232.5	44.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	71.8	15.75	46.6	ABC Ltd	15	71.8	15.75	46.6	ABC Ltd	25	95.5	242.5	46.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	74.5	15.75	48.4	ABC Ltd	15	74.5	15.75	48.4	ABC Ltd	25	99.2	252.5	48.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	77.2	15.75	50.2	ABC Ltd	15	77.2	15.75	50.2	ABC Ltd	25	102.9	262.5	50.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	80.0	15.75	52.0	ABC Ltd	15	80.0	15.75	52.0	ABC Ltd	25	106.6	272.5	52.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	82.7	15.75	53.8	ABC Ltd	15	82.7	15.75	53.8	ABC Ltd	25	110.3	282.5	53.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	85.4	15.75	55.6	ABC Ltd	15	85.4	15.75	55.6	ABC Ltd	25	114.1	292.5	55.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	88.1	15.75	57.4	ABC Ltd	15	88.1	15.75	57.4	ABC Ltd	25	117.8	302.5	57.4
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	90.8	15.75	59.2	ABC Ltd	15	90.8	15.75	59.2	ABC Ltd	25	121.5	312.5	59.2
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	93.5	15.75	61.0	ABC Ltd	15	93.5	15.75	61.0	ABC Ltd	25	125.2	322.5	61.0
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	96.2	15.75	62.8	ABC Ltd	15	96.2	15.75	62.8	ABC Ltd	25	128.9	332.5	62.8
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd	24	98.9	15.75	64.6	ABC Ltd	15	98.9	15.75	64.6	ABC Ltd	25	132.6	342.5	64.6
ABC Ltd	87.1973	8.000	11.62%	ABC Ltd														



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"...so if Jesus said: If any man let him follow me: and wherever I go, let him be my servant he... St. John 12:26.

BIRTHS

ANDREWS.—On November 26th, to Tricia, nee Tullius, wife of Peter Andrews, 10, of Eton Road, Handbridge, Cheshire.

EVERINGTON.—On 27th November, to Bryan and Linda, son of Bryan and William.

FITZPATRICK.—On November 27th, to Peter and Elizabeth, son of Peter and Elizabeth.

FRASER.—On November 27th, to Alexander, son of Alexander and Elizabeth.

PEETERS.—On November 27th, in Cambridge, to Elizabeth, three daughters, Tony and Emma, a son, and a daughter.

RIMINGTON.—To John and Sheila Institute, Brinsford, on November 27th, to their son, Matthew.

RENDER.—On November 28th, to Bryan and Linda, son of Bryan and Linda.

RICHARDSON.—On November 28th, to Arthur and Dorothy, son of Arthur and Dorothy.

SIMPSON.—On November 27th, in London, to John and Sheila, son of John and Sheila.

WATSON.—On November 29th, to Gordon and Linda, son of Gordon and Linda.

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